INTRODUCTORY SKETCHES

TOWARDS A

TOPOGRAPHICAL HISTORY,

OF THE

COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

By the Rev. JOHN LODGE, B. A.

Pleaſant SILURIA, land of various views,
Hills, rivers, woods and lawns and purple groves
Pomaceous, mingled with the curling growth
Of tendril hops that flaunt upon their poles.

DYER'S FLEECE.

KINGTON:
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M.DCC.XCIII.

G R III

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

JOHN, LORD VISCOUNT BATEMAN,

LORD LIEUTENANT AND CUSTOS ROTULORUM OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

MY LORD,

YOUR well-known zeal for the welfare and proſperity of this county, induces me to hope, that You may not be diſpleaſed with any efforts that may tend to elucidate its hiſtory. But I am more particularly emboldened

to commit the following pages to the protection of your Lordſhip, from the reſpect and eſteem due to thoſe amiable qualities, and that benevolence of heart, which diſtinguiſh the hoſpitable proprietor of Shobdon-Court. I wiſh theſe ſketches were more worthy of your Lordſhip's patronage: be pleaſed, however, to receive them as a ſmall token of the ſincere eſteem, with which I am,

my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's

Moſt obedient and much obliged

Humble ſervant,

JOHN LODGE.

PREFACE.

THE following ſheets are ſubmitted to the Public as an introduction to a conciſe and popular Hiſtory of the County of Hereford. As the proper execution of ſuch a work will neceſſarily require the inſpection of various records and papers, which are only to be met with in the Libraries of the Nobility and Gentry of the County, the author begs leave to ſolicit their patronage and ſupport; being well convinced that without ſuch communications, his labours muſt be rendered extremely lame and imperfect. Should he be favoured with the aſſiſtance he preſumes to hope for, his intention is to appropriate a ſmall octavo volume to each hundred, beginning with BROXASH, and proceeding through the reſt in Alphabetical order. If, on the other hand, the plan now propoſed, together with theſe introductory ſketches, be doomed to neglect or indifference, he will ſubmiſſively acquieſce in the deciſion of the Public, and ceaſe to proſecute a work which however captivating to himſelf, ſhall fail of meriting general attention.

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p. 3 line 15, for *Bramton Brian*, — read Brampton Brian.
p. 59 l. 6, for *compleats*, — read completes.
p. 65 l. 25, dele the *comma* after fruit.
p. 67 In the note at the bottom, for *ranſplanting*, — read tranſplanting.
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Introductory Sketches &c.

CHAPTER I.

CONTENTS.

SITUATION OF HEREFORDSHIRE.—BOUNDARIES.—EXTENT.—GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTY.—RIVERS AND WATERS.—SOIL.—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTIONS.—VIZ. WOOL, WOOD, WHEAT, HOPS, CYDER AND PERRY.—PARTICULAR CUSTOMS.—CLIMATE.—

HEREFORDSHIRE is an inland county, of nearly a circular form: bounded on the eaſt by the counties of Worceſter and Glouceſter: on the weſt by Brecknockſhire and Radnorſhire in wales: on the north by Salop, and on the ſouth by Monmouthſhire. From north to ſouth, it extends about thirty eight miles in length, and from eaſt to weſt, about thirty five in breadth. It is divided into

eleven hundreds, viz. *Broxaſh*, *Ewias-lacy*, *Greytree*, *Grimſworth*, *Huntingdon*, *Radlow*, *Stretford*, *Webtree*, *Wigmore*, *Wolphy*, and *Wormlow*. It contains one city, namely, *Hereford*; two boroughs, *Leominſter* (or *Lemſter*) and *Weobley*; and five other market towns, *Bromyard*, *Kington*, *Ledbury*, *Roſs* and *Pembridge*, tho' the market of the laſt is now entirely diſuſed. The county of Hereford returns eight members to Parliament, viz. two knights for the ſhire; two citizens for Hereford; and two burgeſſes for each of its boroughs. Its inhabitants are computed at upwards of eighty thouſand, and four hundred and eighty men compoſe its quota of the national militia.

To enter into a minute deſcription of the diſcriminating features of the county would lead me beyond the limits of the preſent work. Suffice it then to ſay, that it is diſtinguiſhed for a diverſity and richneſs of ſcenery, which can ſcarcely be excelled. * Hills and vales, woods and lawns, not only

* The following hills are regarded as peculiarly picturesque objects. Dynedor-hill near Hereford: Credon-hill: Lady-lift, and other hills near Yazor: alſo Robin Hood's Butts near King's-pyon, to which might be added many others of almoſt equal celebrity.

only delight the eye by their variety, but by their agreeable and graceful poſition afford a number of beautiful ſubjects for the pencil.

Theſe variegated landſcapes acquire additional beauty from the numerous rivers and ſtreams which interſect the county in different directions, and add greatly to the fertilization of the ſoil. The rivers which chiefly deſerve our attention at preſent, are the *Wye*, the *Lugg*, the *Teme* and the * *Munnow*. The two laſt however may rather be conſidered as boundaries to the county, than its appropriate or legitimate rivers; the former taking its riſe above Bramton-Brian, and incloſing the north-eaſt part of the county as far as Tenbury; and the latter iſſuing from the Hatterel-hills or Black-mountains, and dividing in ſome meaſure the counties of Hereford and Monmouth.

The river WYE is rapid, large, and majeſtick. It riſes from Plinlimmon-hill in the

* The Arrow, Froom, Horkney, Wadel, Dore, Pinſwelly, Liden &c. &c. are alſo very pleaſing ſtreams, but, it is not conſiſtent with the Author's plan, to notice them particularly at preſent.

county of Montgomery, very near the ſource of the Severn, which iſſues from the ſame mountain. Thence it rolls along with a winding but rapid courſe thro' Radnorſhire, and proceeds to Builth, from which place it directs its progreſs thro' Brecknockſhire till it arrives at the Hay, whence it glides down to Hereford. From Hereford it runs to Roſs: thence by various windings proceeds to Monmouth, and running by Chepſtow, empties itſelf into the Severn a little below that town. The Wye abounds in excellent Salmon, which, according to Dr. Fuller, "are always fat, ſound, and fit for the table, when the Salmon of other rivers are ſick, lean, and unfit for * uſe." It alſo abounds in pike, trout, and various other kinds of fiſh; and, for the fertility of its banks, and the many picturesque and pleaſing views † which may be obſerved in an expedition by water from Hereford to Chepſtow, is

* It is rather to be feared that this is not exactly the truth, altho' Fuller mentions it again in the following verſe.

"Salmo non æſtate novus nec frigore deſit."
Which he thus tranſlates.
"Salmon in ſummer is not rare"
"In winter I of them do ſhare."

† See Mr. Gilpin's views of the river Wye.

is acknowledged to be not only ſuperior to, but even unrivalled by any other ſtream in the Kingdom.

The river LUGG riſes near Knighton in Radnorſhire. It runs by Preſteigne, and thence by various windings arrives at Leominſter. From Leominſter it proceeds in a ſouth direction to Hampton Court, and finding its way between the hills, glides on cloſe by Bodenham and Marden. Continuing its courſe ſouthwards, it paſſes the city of Hereford about a mile and half on the eaſt, and falls into the Wye a little below Mordiford. This river, by reaſon of its confined channel, is very apt to overflow its banks on the fall of any conſiderable quantity of rain. It affords excellent fiſhing for pike, trout and grayling, and by its various and apparently wanton circuits, reminds us of the celebrated Meander,

——— *toties qui terris errat in iſdem,*
Qui lapſas in ſe ſæpe retorquet aquas.

Ovid.

Many attempts have been made to render theſe rivers navigable, as well for the ſake of

of bringing up different articles from Briſtol &c. at a ſmaller expence, as of finding a more eaſy and advantageous ſale for the natural productions of the county. Accordingly an Act of Parliament was paſſed in 14th. of Charles II. impowering Sir William Sandys Kt. Windſor Sandys Eſq. and Henry Sandys, their heirs and aſſigns to make them navigable. In conſequence of this firſt act, ſome ſlight and feeble exertions were made towards rendering Wye navigable, but Lugg ſtill remained in its priſtine ſtate. Another act was therefore paſſed in the 7th. of William III. by which, all the powers, privileges, benefits, and advantages were veſted in the hands of * truſtees: but no proviſion having been made by this laſt act for filling up the number of truſtees when vacancies happened by

* By this act money is to be levied on the county of Hereford to make the rivers Wye and Lugg navigable. The ſum not to exceed 337l. 4s. 5d. a month. County and city, and borough of Leominſter to be aſſeſſed 4526l. 13s. 0d. a year as the commiſſioners ſhall direct. The Cuſtos Rotulorum of the County of Hereford to have an account of monies diſburſed. Monthly ſum to continue from 24th. of June 1696, to 24th. of June 1700. Truſtees may borrow 16000l. at 4 per Cent &c. Earl of Kent to keep a lock at or near NEW-WEAR. Ten yards of new wear to be taken twelve inches lower than the loweſt part thereof.

by death, or removal, a * third act was paſſed remedying that deficiency. At the time this act was paſſed, it appears that there was the ſum of 18000l. already raiſed to facilitate the navigation of theſe rivers; but notwithſtanding various attempts have been ſince made to that end, they ſtill continue too rapid and unmanageable for the purpoſes of any regular commercial intercourſe. The capricious and headlong current of the Wye, ſeems indeed to bid defiance to every effort of controul; yet is it in its preſent unimproved ſtate, very beneficial to the County in general. Moſt of the † coal conſumed in Hereford and its neighbourhood, is brought up in barges after a ſwell of the river. Various other heavy articles, ſuch as grocery, wines, ſpirituous liquors &c. are conveyed at a much eaſier rate than by land-carriage.

* By this laſt act ſeperate truſtees are nominated for the Wye and Lugg. The Biſhop and Mayor of Hereford for the time being are ſtanding truſtees for the Wye; as are the Vicar and Bailiff of Leominſter for the Lugg. Not fewer than twenty-one truſtees for the Wye to act, nor fewer than ſeven for the Lugg. Three parts out of four of the monies raiſed to be appropriated to the Wye, and one part in four to the Lugg. Truſtees not to act unleſs taxed for 150l. per annum.

† The coal uſed in Hereford &c. is brought up the River Wye from the foreſt of Dean in Glouceſterſhire.

land-carriage. It is but juſtice however to obſerve that the navigation of this river is extremely difficult, and even impracticable at ſome ſeaſons, owing partly to its numerous ſhoals, and partly to deficiency of water, which is frequently experienced in the hot ſummer months, as well as during the ſeverity of winter froſts. In return, the boats carry off the produce of the country, ſuch as timber, bark, cyder, wheat, flower &c. &c. The Lugg, tho' much more manageable than the Wye, is ſeldom navigated by any veſſels at preſent; yet might it be made ſerviceable in that way at a ſmall expence.

Beſides the larger rivers already mentioned, the county of Hereford is peculiarly fortunate in thoſe ſmaller ſtreams, which add much to the value of land, and are of infinite advantage to the farmer. Water, indeed, is one of thoſe four * articles for which this county has long been celebrated. Almoſt every meadow has its little rivulet or rill, which the farmer

* The inhabitants of Herefordſhire pride themſelves for excelling in four articles beginning with the letter W. viz. wheat, wood, wool, and water; and of theſe they have certainly a right to boaſt, without the imputation of provincial partiality.

farmer leads over his grounds at pleaſure; and by that means not only enriches them, but enſures a good crop of hay, even in the drieſt and moſt unpropitious ſummers.

This practice of watering meadow and paſture-land, which is generally ſuppoſed to be a modern improvement, prevailed in Herefordſhire more than a century ago. For in a printed Letter written by *J. B. to Samuel Hartlib Eſq.* dated Hereford May 13. 1656, we meet with the following paſſage. "Other helps of paſture we do omit: "every rill of water is carefully conducted "to the beſt uſe. If it runs from a fat "ſtream, land flood or limeſtone, we find "benefit in it, if withal we let it paſs over "and away before it exchangeth its fatneſs "into a cold hunger, which falls out in a "very few days. Some water we find ſo "hungry that we dare not receive it, but "at ſeaſons of neceſſity."

Medicinal as well as mineral waters are not unfrequent in this county, particularly

about * Malvern-hills, where there are two or three ſprings that have been found beneficial in healing ulcerated wounds. Some of theſe rills are full of ſmall thin lamina of a metalline brightneſs, and are of ſingular ſervice in giving a peculiar ſmoothneſs and whiteneſs to the ſkin. Dr. Beale gives the following account of theſe waters to the Royal Society. "The higher ſpring is pe-"culiar for the eyes, but the healing ſpring "is a furlong lower. This cures many ma-"ladies, and particularly cancers, if applyed "and made uſe of before the ſtrength of "nature be quite exhauſted. I have read "in the monuments belonging to the hoſpi-"tal at Ledbury, a town in the way from "Hereford to theſe ſprings, that a Biſhop, "ſome ages ago, endowed that hoſpital with "ſome revenues for the entertainment of diſ-"treſſed paſſengers that paſſed to thoſe ſprings "for the relief of their diſtempers." Theſe waters have been ſince analized by the late Dr. Wall of Worceſter, who by publiſhing an account

* Theſe hills divide Herefordſhire from Worceſterſhire. The Springs moſt frequented at preſent, are on the Worceſterſhire, or ſouth ſide of the mountain; but thoſe on the Herefordſhire ſide poſſeſs exactly the ſame qualities.

account of their virtues, has added conſiderably to their reputation.

The SOIL of Herefordſhire is of a very different quality in different parts of the county. In the ſouthern diſtrict, formerly known by the name of ARCHENFIELD or URCHENFIELD, but now chiefly by that of the * RYELANDS, the ſoil is compoſed of a rich ſandy loam exceedingly well calculated for producing all ſorts of grain. In the other diviſions, the ſoil conſiſts moſtly of a clayey loam, better adapted for the growth of Hops, as well as more favourable for the rearing and feeding of cattle. † If we comprize the whole county in one view, it will be difficult to meet with any other diſtrict in the kingdom, the produce of which is at once ſo various and abundant. On this account it has not unfrequently been

 denominated

* This diſtrict is ſuppoſed to have obtained the name of the Ryelands, from its being a ſoil favourable to the growth of Rye.

† The ſandy loam of the Ryelands does not eaſily admit of a ſward after it has been once ploughed. On this account there is but a very ſmall proportion of meadow and paſture lands in ſome parts of that diſtrict. A farmer near Roſs who rents upwards of 250l. a year, has not more than ſix acres of meadow ground upon his whole farm. Clover and Ryegraſs are therefore the chief ſupport of his Horſes and Cattle.

denominated THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND, which appellation it certainly merits in a very high degree. Rich meadows and corn-fields, hopyards, and orchards decorate the vallies; and the hills and more mountainous parts which are generally in other places exempted by nature from an equal quota of produce, are here either creſted with trees, or enriched with wheat and various other kinds of grain. In ſhort what *Mr. Philips* ſays of Hereford-ſhire, in his poem on Cyder, is not more poetical, than ſtrictly and literally true.

" The meadows here with bat'ning ooze enrich'd,
" Give ſpirit to the graſs; three cubits high
" The jointed herbage ſhoots; th' unfallow'd glebe
" Yearly o'ercomes the granaries with ſtore
" Of golden wheat, the ſtrength of human life.
" Lo, on auxiliary poles, the hops
" Aſcending ſpiral, rang'd in meet array!
" Lo, how the arable with barley grain
" Stands thick, o'erſhadow'd, to the thirſty hind
" Tranſporting proſpect! theſe as modern uſe
" Ordains, infus'd, an auburn drink compoſe,
" Wholeſome, of deathleſs fame. Here to the ſight, " Ap-

" Apples of price, and plenteous ſheaves of corn,
" Oft interlac'd occur, and both imbibe
" Fitting congenial juice; ſo rich the ſoil,
" So much does fructuous moiſture o'er-abound!
" Nor are the hills unamiable, whoſe tops
" To heav'n aſpire, affording proſpect ſweet
" To human ken; nor at their feet the vales
" Deſcending gently, where the lowing herd
" Chews verd'rous paſture; nor the yellow fields
" Gaily' interchang'd, with rich variety
" Pleaſing, aswhen an emerald, green enchas'd
" In flamy gold, from the bright maſs acquires
" A nobler hue, more delicate to ſight.
" What ſhould we wiſh for more? or why in queſt
" Of foreign vintage, inſincere and mix't,
" Traverſe th' extreameſt world? why tempt the rage
" Of the rough ocean? when our native glebe
" Imparts from bounteous womb annual recruits
" Of wine delectable, that far ſurmounts
" Gallic or Latin grapes, or thoſe that ſee
" The ſetting ſun near Calpe's tow'ring height,
" Nor let the Rhodian nor the Leſbian Vines,
" Vaunt their rich Muſt, nor let Tokay contend
" For Sov'ranty: Phanæus ſelf muſt bow
" To th' Ariconian vales." ——

If

If we particularize the different articles of produce, we ſhall find the county chiefly diſtinguiſhed for its WOOL, WOOD, WHEAT, HOPS, CYDER and PERRY.

The Herefordſhire WOOL has been long famed for the ſilkineſs of its pile and the delicacy of its texture, and is particularly ſought after by all thoſe manufactures where the fineſt broad-cloth is made. *Mr. Dyer*, in his poem called the *Fleece*, celebrates it in the following lines.

" Beauteous Albion ſince great Edgar chas'd
" The prowling wolf, with many a lock appears
" Of ſilky luſtre; chief SILURIA thine,
" Thine VAGA favour'd ſtream "———

The ſheep which produce this wool are in a great meaſure peculiar to the Ryeland diſtrict, altho' many other places in the county have obtained nearly an equal ſhare of celebrity. The wool of Leominſter and its neighbourhood in particular, has often been called by way of eminence the LEOMINSTER ORE. *Mr. Philips*, in his poem entitled cyder, ſpeaks very highly in its praiſe.

——" Can

——————" Can Tmolus' head
" Vie with our ſaffron odors? or the fleece
" Bætic, or fineſt Tarentine, compare
" With LEMSTER'S ſilken wool?——

It muſt be acknowledged, however, that the fineſt wool about Leominſter is now much inferior to the Ryeland fleece: the latter when * trended bearing a price of about two ſhillings a pound, or one pound five ſhillings a ſtone, whilſt the former is rarely ſold for more than eighteen ſhillings. But tho' the Ryeland wool be the fineſt in the kingdom, it is not perhaps ſo productive to the farmer, as that of a longer and leſs ſilky quality. For the wool being ſhort, and the ſheep of a remarkably ſmall ſize, the fleeces ſeldom weigh more than from ſixteen to twenty ounces. The Ryland mutton is extremely ſweet and well flavoured, but

* TRENDERS OR WOOL WINDERS by the 8th. of Henry VI. Cap. 22. and alſo by the 23rd. Hen. VIII. Cap. 17. are ſworn to free the wool from dirt &c. and to do juſtice between the buyer and ſeller. For every fleece improperly wound or trended, the ſame ſtatutes inflict a penalty of ſix pence. This part of Herefordſhire is the only place the author recollects which ſtrictly conforms to the letter of the law in employing ſworn trenders. Trended wool ſells for about 2s. or 2s. 6d. a ſtone (12½lb.) more than wool in its rough ſtate.

but of courſe very ſmall; the ewes when fat weighing from ſix to ten, and the wethers from eight to twelve pounds a quarter only.

A ſingular cuſtom in the management of ſheep, has long prevailed in the Ryelands, which is that of houſing them in cots during the night, as well in ſummer as winter. From what cauſe this originated, it does not appear to be known at preſent with certainty. Some maintain, that it was firſt practiſed in order to collect the manure of the flock for the purpoſes of agriculture, as the Ryeland ſheep are too delicate to ſtand the fold. Others affirm that the Ryelands being formerly a woodland country, the cuſtom of *cotting* ſheep was firſt begun more effectually to ſecure the lambs from the ravages of the fox: but the majority are of opinion, that houſing ſheep contributes to the fineneſs of the fleece; and therefore this is generally aſſigned as the principal cauſe of its origin, as well as the chief reaſon for the continuance of the practice. Good judges of this matter however affirm, that if houſing the ſheep contributes to fine the wool, it alſo retards its growth and makes it much ſhorter. But

all

all are agreed in one beneficial effect it produces, which is, the dry fodder generally allowed the ſheep in theſe *cots*, and their confinement there till the dews are off the ground, preſerve them in a great meaſure from being infected by the * rot. And as the origin of houſing the Ryeland Sheep is not with certainty known; ſo are we likewiſe ignorant of thoſe cauſes which contribute to the excellency and ſuperiority of their fleeces. Some attribute the fineneſs of the wool to the cuſtom of houſing the ſheep and preſerving them dry during the nights, as mentioned before: but others affirm that it is owing chiefly to the quality of the ſoil. Again, ſome aſſert, that it ariſes from a peculiar and fortunate breed of ſheep; whilſt others with more confidence maintain, that it is owing partly to all theſe cauſes; but more particularly and principally to the nature as well as ſcantineſs of their food. For the Ryelands being almoſt entirely appropriated to the growth of corn, the ſheep are obliged

* Quære. Would it not more effectually contribute to preſerve them from that diſeaſe, if they had a portion of ſalt allowed them in theſe cots? The Spaniſh Shepherds are ſo fully convinced of the ſalutary effects of ſalt in this inſtance, that they accuſtom their ſheep to eat it daily.

to live moſtly on * fallows, and to pick up a ſcanty ſubſiſtence, where a larger breed could not eaſily exiſt. In ſupport of this laſt opinion it is urged, that very good keep, injures the fineneſs of the fleece, giving the pile too luxuriant a texture, as may be ſeen in thoſe ſheep that are fatted for the butcher. On the other hand, where they are too much ſtinted in their food, the pile becomes uneven and rotten, and of courſe leſs valuable to the manufacturer. But when ſheep live rather ſcantily, and are not too much ſtinted, the pile will be moſt even, and the fleece the fineſt. In confirmation of this opinion it is added, that the fine ſpaniſh wool uſed in the Britiſh manufactures, is the growth of *Leon* and *Aſturias*, the moſt barren mountains in Spain; and the bleak and inhoſpitable regions of *Armenia* in *Perſia*, produce the fineſt wool in the world.

To whatſoever cauſe the ſuperiority of the Herefordſhire wool may be owing, that cauſe is

* It is very often aſſerted in general, that fallows promote the fineſs of the fleece: and it is a well known fact that the Leominſter wool was finer about fifty years ago, when many of the lands were in arable common fields, than it is at preſent. This ſubject certainly deſerves inveſtigation.

is certainly a local one. For a farmer of undoubted veracity and reputation informed me, that a few years ſince, he ſent a couple of ewes and a ram as a preſent to a friend in Brecknockſhire. Three years afterwards he ſaw them again, at which time their fleeces were ſo viſibly altered for the worſe, that there was no reaſon to doubt, but that they would in a ſhort time, reſemble thoſe of the neighbouring flocks. Again, the experiment was tried *vice verſa.* A number of ſheep whoſe wool was very coarſe, were ſent from the mountains of Brecon into the Ryelands. In a few years the wool ſeemed to renounce its original coarſeneſs, and to aſſume a likeneſs to that which is the natural produce of the diſtrict. Notwithſtanding however the growth of ſuch excellent wool, and the advantages which might accrue to the county from working it up, we find no traces of any * manufacture in which it can be uſed. It is all ſent away either into Glouceſterſhire, Wiltſhire or Yorkſhire, to

* Some narrow STUFFS are made at Leominſter, and likewiſe a few hats. The woollen manufacture was carried on with conſiderable ſpirit there, about thirty years ago; but now, little is done, beſides milling and dying a few welſh flannels, the greateſt part of which is ſent back again into wales for ſale.

be made into Broad-cloth, by which means this county voluntarily deprives itſelf of a very profitable trade.

The late *Lord Scudamore*, deſirous of promoting a woollen manufacture in Hereford, left the ſum of four hundred pounds to be lent out, without intereſt, to any perſon of reſponſibility who would undertake the eſtabliſhment of that buſineſs. But ſuch has been the ſcarcity of adventurers, that the original ſum has already encreaſed to two Thouſand pounds and upwards, without any attempt having been made to fulfil his Lordſhip's benevolent intentions. One principal obſtacle appears to be the high price of coal, which muſt ever prevent or retard the eſtabliſhment of any manufactures in which much fire is required. The whole county, however, ſeems at preſent to be rouſed by a ſpirit of activity and adventure. Navigable Canals are become the favourite topic in every company: and two different ſurveys and eſtimates have actually taken place; the one from *Leominſter* to join the river *Severn* at *Stourport* in *Worceſterſhire*: and the other from *Hereford* to join the ſame river

river near * *Glouceſter*. Should the endeavours of thoſe who promote theſe ſchemes of publick utility be crowned with the deſired ſucceſs, the county of Hereford will be prodigiouſly enriched. For beſides the eaſy communication which will thereby be opened to diſtant markets, coal will not only be brought much cheaper, for the uſe of the parlour and kitchen; but as there is plenty of limeſtone in the county, it may be burnt at ſuch a moderate expence, as to afford a cheap and excellent manure for the farmer.

Herefordſhire is, properly ſpeaking, a WOODLAND county; plenty of wood ſpringing up ſpontaneouſly, provided it be ſecured from the depredations of cattle. In particular, the oak, aſh, elm, pop'ar and willow or ſallow tree, thrive and flouriſh in great abundance. The laſt of theſe when cropped, affords excellent hop-poles every fifth or ſixth year,

* The line of the intended Canal from Leominſter to Stourport, ſurveyed by Mr. Dadford, is thirty miles ſeven furlongs in length —The eſtimate 82907l. 14s. 6d. It has been lately reſolved to extend it to Kington which will be fifteen miles further.

The Canal from Hereford to Glouceſter, ſurveyed by Mr. Clowes, is thirty five miles in length; the eſtimate, including a lateral cut to Newent, is 69997l. 13s. 6d.

year, for which reaſon it is much cultivated in thoſe diſtricts where hops moſt abound. The Alder is alſo very plentiful in low marſhy lands, and finds great encouragement from the hop-planters. But the main ſupply of wood for the hop-plantations, ariſes from the very numerous and extenſive coppices with which many of the hills and upland grounds are covered and adorned. The aſh coppices are eſteemed by far the moſt valuable; not only being fit to be cut every ſeven or eight years, but alſo becauſe they afford the farmer hoops for his cyder-veſſels. Oak coppices are of ſlower growth, and ſeldom experience the axe oftener than every eighteen years. Theſe coppices bear different * prices according to the quality of the wood, and their greater or leſs diſtance from the chief hop diſtricts. But tho' Herefordſhire be juſtly entitled to the character of a woodland county, there does not appear to be much large and valuable timber, except upon

* Aſh and black ſallow poles are eſteemed the moſt durable, laſting from ſeven to nine years. Common hop ſallow, oak, and alder from four to five. The two laſt when peeled endure a couple of years longer. The price of aſh and black ſallow poles from ſixteen to eighteen feet long, is from 10s. to 12s. the others from 7s. to 10s. a hundred.

upon the eſtates of ſome of the nobility, and a few other gentlemen of fortune. The farmers in particular ſeem to be determined foes to the growth of all ſorts of timber. If unreſtrained by leaſe they will generally ſhred the elms and poplars, every third or fourth year to the very "topmoſt bough." The oaks are alſo very frequently deſpoiled of their honours by being * cropped or beheaded; by which means their value is not only diminiſhed but almoſt annihilated. Thoſe land-holders who have a proper regard for the beauty as well as value of timber, may ſee ſome very judicious remarks upon this ſubject, in the fifth volume of *Mr. Young's* annals, communicated by *Uvedale Price Eſq.* of Foxley in this county: a gentleman whoſe extenſive plantations, conducted by the trueſt taſte, contribute highly to adorn and beautify the neighbouring country.

Moſt kinds of grain are cultivated here in great abundance, but in no ſort of corn does

* One excuſe of the farmers for ſhredding and cropping trees is, they are obliged to do it, in order to procure wood for the reparation of their hedges. But in a country where quickſet hedges are reared ſo eaſily, and grow ſo luxuriantly, this ſhould be no excuſe.

does the county excel ſo much as in WHEAT; which is ſaid by very good judges to be much better than the *Hertfordſhire* wheat, not only in yielding a larger quantity of flour * but alſo in the ſuperior flavour of the bread.

"Leominſter bread and Weobley ale" being celebrated by *Camden* and other ancient writers, it ſhould ſeem that this county has not been diſtinguiſhed for wheat only, but for barley alſo. But altho' it excels many counties in barley, it bears a much higher character for its wheat. Yet even this favourite production is not raiſed in ſuch abundance as might naturally be expected: from fourteen to eighteen buſhels, ten gallons to the buſhel, being nearly the average produce of a ſtatute acre throughout the county. That a ſoil ſo highly propitious to the growth of wheat ſhould not produce a larger quantity per acre, ſeems to be chiefly owing to two cauſes: the firſt of which is a too large quantity of arable land. This renders it

* A bag of wheat conſiſting of three buſhels, ten gallons to the buſhel, generally weighs twelve ſcore pounds, and ſometimes more.

it impoſſible to be properly manured by the farmer's ſtock; the arable bearing a proportion of two, and in ſome places even three to one, to the meadow and paſture grounds. Under theſe circumſtances, when the very ſources and ſtrength of agriculture are cut off, it is no wonder that the vigour of the land is checked, and its natural fertility in ſome meaſure impeded. This evil is ſtill further increaſed by the *hop-yards*, which engroſs a large quantity of the very beſt manure, to the manifeſt injury of the lands deſtined to the plough. The ſecond cauſe is a too frequent repetition of exhauſting crops, and eſpecially that of wheat; which is ſo great a favourite with the Herefordſhire farmers, that it is generally ſown upon the ſame land every third year if not oftener. In common fields where a compliance with ancient cuſtom makes it neceſſary to fallow every third year, the invariable courſe of huſbandry is, firſt, wheat; ſecond, barley or peaſe; and third, fallow. In this ſucceſſion of crops there is not perhaps much to blame. The land is eaſed and recruited every third year by a fallow, and can ſuſtain its crops with convenience to itſelf and

advantage to the farmer. But ſurely when the land is not ſo often indulged with a fallow, the frequent repetition of wheat and barley muſt be exhauſting to a very great degree. Aware of this, ſome of the moſt enlightened farmers have attempted to introduce beans and turnips, as meliorating crops, more frequently into their courſe of huſbandry; but few parts of the county are favourable to the former, and the latter have not yet been cultivated with general ſucceſs.

In regard to the different operations of huſbandry, the old practice generally prevails: the broad-caſt method of ſowing being almoſt univerſally followed. The drill plough has indeed been introduced, but the attention of the farmers is ſo totally engroſſed by hops, that they can ſpare no time to hoe and clean their grain. A large portion of the plough work is performed by oxen. The Ryelands and ſome other diſtricts of the county are particularly favourable to ox-teams, on account of the ſandy quality of the ſoil. The old cuſtom of drawing the oxen in yokes ſtill prevails; a practice which cramps, confines,

confines, and tortures the poor animals to ſuch a degree, that it is aſtoniſhing the farmers have not yet adopted the harneſs, and by that means ſtudied to mingle convenience and humanity together.

Of the HOP-PLANT, which is a very favourite article of growth with the Herefordſhire farmer, botaniſts reckon up two ſorts: one, the common wild hop, which is of a barren and unprofitable nature, and may be ſeen growing in many of the hedges throughout this Kingdom; the other, the plant cultivated for uſe, which is denominated *Lupulus fœmina* or the female hop. This cultivated hop we are told was firſt brought into England from the Netherlands in 1524, and the following year for the firſt time uſed in brewing malt liquor. But whether it was owing to the partiality of the Engliſh for their native wormwood, or that the hop was then thought to communicate a diſagreeable and nauſeous taſte, it is certain that a petition was preſented to parliament againſt the uſe of it in 1528, wherein it is ſtiled "a moſt pernicious and wicked weed." By degrees however the kingdom

became reconciled to the exchange; as we find it mentioned in an engliſh ſtatute book in 1552, viz, 5th and 6th of Edw. VI. Cap. 5. in terms of evident partiality. About fifty years afterwards hops had gained the entire protection of the legiſlature; for by the 1ſt. James 1ſt. 1603, Cap. 18. a penalty is inflicted upon ſuch as were found to have adulterated them with a view of adding to their weight. At what time hops were firſt planted in Herefordſhire cannot be clearly aſcertained, but we may ſuppoſe that it was not long after their firſt introduction into this kingdom: for in the year 1656 they had made an extenſive progreſs in the county, as appears by J. B's letter to S. Hartlib Eſq. "before quoted. "For Hops" ſays that "author, "we make haſte to be the chief "hop-planters in England, our country hav-"ing ſtore of coppice-woods, and many "provident men within theſe three years "planting abundance of the faireſt and largeſt "ſorts of hops. All about Bromyard in a "baſe ſoil there is great ſtore. At firſt we "adventured only upon deep low rich and "mooriſh grounds, now we climb up the "hills with wonderful ſucceſs. We find

"alſo

"alſo that the bottoms are apt to gather "heat as an oven, and that begets honey-"dews when the more open air eſcapes it." Since this pamphlet was written the plantation of hops has very much encreaſed. Indeed, the very high prices of ten, twelve, and even fifteen pounds a hundred weight for which they have been lately ſold, muſt have an irreſiſtible tendency to ſpread and extend their cultivation. Many of thoſe farmers who were ſo fortunate as to be poſſeſſed of large plantations when the great riſe in hops took p'ace, have acquired a comfortable independency. Others who had beſtowed leſs attention on that branch of huſbandry, whilſt they are lamenting their ill luck, are preparing themſelves for the ſmiles of fortune at ſome future period, by plantations of an unuſual and immoderate * extent. Whether ſuch a time will ſpeedily arrive, is very much doubted by thoſe whoſe judgment

* Many farmers have from twenty to thirty acres of Hop-ground, and ſome even a hundred. Theſe acres engroſs more or leſs ground according to the diſtance of the ſtocks, a thouſand ſtocks or tumps conſtituting a hop-acre. A hop-acre worked by hand is in general about half a chain acre or not quite ſo much: if worked by the plough, it is three quarters or perhaps more, according to the diſtance of the parallel rows.

judgment deſerves attention. They ſeem to foreſee, that as the Hop-yards are extended ſo much beyond their uſual proportion, the markets muſt in a ſhort time be greatly overſtocked, and conſequently the value of hops conſiderably diminiſhed.

Of hops there are two different ſorts, viz. the *white* and *red*: and of theſe there are many varieties continually ſpringing up, either from the difference of ſoil or the variation of culture. Such new productions generally bear the name of the planter who raiſed them, or the hamlet where they firſt originated. The white hops in the higheſt eſtimation at preſent are the following.

1ſt. The *Golden vine*, a white hop with a red *wire* or vine.

2nd. *Cooper's white*, an excellent hop lately introduced.

3rd. The *Farnham white*, a very good hop lately introduced from Farnham in Surrey.

4th. The *Kentiſh grape*, a red wire white hop, fine in colour and excellent in quality.

5th. The *Mathern white*, ſo called from a village

village in this county, where it is cultivated with great ſucceſs.

6th. The *Townend green wired hop*, firſt produced at a place called Townend in the pariſh of Boſbury. It is a remarkably large ſquare hop, being more than four inches in diameter. The ſets were firſt ſold for five ſhillings, but are now reduced to half a crown a hundred.

Beſides theſe already mentioned, various other white hops are cultivated, ſuch as *Bryan's white*, and *the long green hop*, or *Suſſex green*, which laſt is very good in quality, but grows thin upon the branches, and does not cluſter. The *Kentiſh Nonpareil* or *Neverfail* deſerves alſo to be noticed, which, tho' not ſo full of eſſence as ſome others, is uncommonly fruitful in a failing year.

The varieties of the red hop are leſs numerous: there being only, 1ſt. the *Red-vine*, *Cluſter-red*, or *brown hop*, a very ſtrong good hop; and 2nd. the *Nwcombe*, a ſeedling of the red-vine, to which it returns whenever it degenerates. It bears ſo abundantly

dantly on the underſide of the wires that it is rather inferior in flavour and quality, to the Red-vine: nevertheleſs it is a great favourite with the farmers, becauſe it ſucceeds better upon old tillage than any other hop cultivated, and is abundantly moſt fruitful in a failing year.

In the markets the preference is decidedly given to the white hop, chiefly on account of its colour; but the red is found to be ſtronger in the proceſs of brewing, as well as hardier and leſs apt to be injured by the weather. Of ſo porous and delicate a texture indeed is the white hop, that a ſtrong weſterly wind for the ſpace of twenty four hours, will *tag*; i. e. diſcolour and lacerate it very much, whilſt the Red-vine and the Newcombe will weather out the ſtorm, and ſupport themſelves without ſuſtaining any great injury.

The method of *planting*, *cultivating*, and *curing* hops in Herefordſhire is nearly as follows.

The hop-planter's firſt care is to make choice of

of a proper SOIL and SITUATION for his intended hopyard. The beſt SOIL for this purpoſe, is that of a rich, dry, and loamy nature, neither inclining too much to a gravel or clay. If ſuch a ſoil however cannot be had, and the farmer is ſtill reſolved to plant a hop-yard, he generally prefers a gravelly, to a clayey loam; becauſe the latter ſtarves and kills the roots in the winter, whilſt the former nouriſhes and preſerves them. — With reſpect to the SITUATION of a hop-yard, it will be of great importance to ſecure it as much as poſſible from the weſt, and ſouth-weſt winds, which are apt not only to bring the honey-dew, but alſo to be injurious to the hops at the time of the autumnal equinox, when they are ripe and fit for pulling. In a favourable year indeed the aſpect is of very little conſequence; but as hops are moſt valuable when there is a general failure, judicious hop-planters always take care to defend them from thoſe winds if they can. For this purpoſe a ſouth-eaſt aſpect is preferred to all others. But in a very bad ſeaſon, an elevated ſituation inclining to the north-eaſt, has been found to be the moſt fortunate, particularly for the Red-vine, the

Newcombe and the Nonpareil; which being of a hardy and firm contexture, can with leſs injury ſuſtain the coldneſs of the eaſt-winds. At other times, however, the more delicate hops ſucceed better in a ſouth-eaſt aſpect, as they are thereby more expoſed to the genial influence of the ſun.

Having fixed upon a ſite for his intended hop-yard, which ought to be meadow or paſture land, the hop-planter double ploughs and harrows it ſome time before Chriſtmas. If this work be done as early as November, the land will be the better for it, as the turf will not only have a longer time to rot, but the ground will have acquired a greater degree of firmneſs. It ſometimes happens that the plough-work is deferred as late as February or March, and the hops planted immediately afterwards, but this is reckoned a bad ſyſtem; for ſhould there be a ſucceſſion of dry weather during the months of March and April, which frequently happens, the *ſets* would be very apt to fail, owing to the *looſeneſs* of the earth that ſurrounds them.

As ſoon as the land is ploughed and harrowed, the next thing is to mark the ſituation and diſtance of the *ſtocks* or *ſets*. In plough-hopyards this is done by drawing a line acroſs the piece of land with feathers or rags tied at the intended diſtance, and fixing a ſmall ſharp pointed ſtick in the ground at every feather to denote the place. One row being finiſhed, other parallel rows are formed in the ſame manner, until the whole is compleated. The diſtance uſually obſerved in plough-hopyards is from three to four feet between ſtock and ſtock, and from ſix to eight feet between the parallel rows.

Hop-yards worked by the hand are laid out differently. A line is drawn over the ground the ſame as in plough-hopyards; but inſtead of the diſtance of the ſtocks being marked by feathers &c. it is meaſured with a ſtick, from five, to five feet and a half, long, which is the uſual diſtance, and a mark ſtuck in the ground at each intended ſtock the ſame as before. After the firſt row is finiſhed, the ſecond is begun in the following manner. The workman takes another ſtick exactly of the ſame length as

the former, and extending their ends like the points of a pair of compaſſes to two adjoining marks or intended ſtocks, brings the other ends of the ſticks to an angle, where again he puts in a ſmall ſharp-pointed ſtick for a mark. By proceeding in this manner, ſtill ſhifting one of his ſticks to a freſh mark, other rows are formed, the ſtocks of which ſtand in a quincunx form, repreſenting in every direction equilateral triangles; and are not only marked out with great expedition but the moſt unerring regularity.

The ground being thus marked out *Hop-ſets* are to be procured in the months of February or March. Theſe *ſets* are the ſhoots of the main root or ſtock, cut every year when the *hop-tumps* or *hills* are opened, and ſold from three pence to half a crown a hundred.

They ought to be about four or five inches long, and ſhould contain two or more joints or buds. And here it may be obſerved that the ſooner they are planted after being cut, the better they will be apt to take root; for if expoſed any conſiderable time to the air,

air, they will either die, or their wires will be very weak and ſickly. If however they cannot be planted immediately, it is cuſtomary to bury them in ſome dry mould where they will keep till the middle of April; by which means the farmer can conſult not only the weather for planting, but alſo his own convenience.

Every thing being ready, the Hop-ſets are put in with a dibble or ſettingſtick: one in a perpendicular direction exactly where the mark or ſmall ſtick was placed, and three or four others round about, ſloping outwards at the bottom, but nearly meeting at the top, that when the *wires* or vines ſpring up, they may not be too far ſeparated to run up the poles. This done, the ſets are covered an inch deep with ſome fine light mould, which is generally preſſed cloſe round them with the hand.

Upon old tillage a different ſyſtem prevails: it being cuſtomary to dig holes at the ſeveral diſtances marked out, about twelve or fourteen inches in diameter and the ſame in depth, which are filled either with freſh earth

earth from the head-lands, or with ſuch mould as has been longeſt expoſed to the ſun and air. But this practice, tho' it anſwers very well upon a dry or gravelly ſoil, ought by no means to obtain upon ſtiff clayey lands, or where the loam is ſhallow and the ſubſoil clay; "becauſe whenever we dig into clay, we form ſo many "baſons to receive water, which will lodge "and ſtagnate there, notwithſtanding the "fine mould we fill them * with," to the manifeſt injury of the Hop-plant.

The hop-yard being planted, is to be kept clean from weeds the following ſummer, and about the beginning of July, ſome mould is to be applyed to the roots: but in doing this great care ſhould be taken not to cover and overload the tender ſhoots, but to leave what the hop-planters term an *eye*, i. e. a ſmall dimple or baſon in the centre of the tump to facilitate the aſcenſion of the young ſhoots. When the wires have attained a ſufficient height they are twiſted and tied round the ſmall ſticks, as no hops are produced the firſt year. The land however ſeldom

* See Bradley ON THE RICHES OF A HOP-GARDEN, p. 31.

ſeldom lies entirely idle or unproductive; many farmers raiſing large crops of potatoes, cabbages, or turnips between the rows. But this practice is reprobated by intelligent hop-planters, who affirm, that ſuch crops are prejudicial to the hop-yards the enſuing ſummer.

In Auguſt the *eye* or baſon is filled up and the tumps finally made up until the ſpring following; but they are not formed ſo large as in ſucceeding years. The uſe of the mould thus thrown up into tumps, is to afford nouriſhment and warmth to the roots, and to throw off all ſuperfluous water.

In February or early in March the ſecond year, the tumps are opened, and the firſt year's wires together with all the young ſhoots * are cut off upon a level with the ſurface of the ground, and the ſtocks covered an inch deep with the fineſt mould. In cutting theſe ſhoots it is neceſſary to have a very ſharp knife, leſt the fibres ſhould be broken in the operation, and the roots diſturbed.

* Theſe ſhoots called hop-tops, are frequently boiled and eaten like Aſparagus, for which they are no bad ſubſtitute.

turbed. It is uſual alſo where the plantations are large, to begin with the pooreſt hop-yards, and to defer cutting thoſe roots till the laſt which are the rankeſt and moſt luxuriant. The chief object in cutting theſe wires annually is to keep the ſtocks down, otherwiſe they would in a few ſummers raiſe themſelves entirely out of the ground.

After the ſhoots begin to make their appearance, the poles are *pitched* or erected without loſs of time, for if the vines ſhould find nothing within their reach to encourage their aſcent, they will cling round and embrace each other ſo cloſely as not eaſily to admit of a ſeparation.

In diſtributing the poles round the hop-yard it is cuſtomary to attend to the ſtrength of the ſtocks, and to drop the longeſt poles where the ſhoots appear to be moſt vigorous. Some planters very judiciouſly place two or three rows of the longeſt and largeſt poles round the ſkirts of their hop-yards, eſpecially on thoſe ſides which are the moſt naked and defenceleſs. By this means ſuch hop-yards are often ſcreened from the rudeneſs of tempeſts, to

to the ſeverity of which, others not ſo well ſheltered are inevitably expoſed.

In general, poles from ten to twelve feet long are thought ſufficient the ſecond year, becauſe if longer they will exhauſt and injure the ſtocks for a future crop. After the ſecond year the ſtocks will admit of much longer poles; but different ſorts of hops, as well as ſoils, require them of different lengths. The Farnham-white, the Kentiſh grape, and Red-vine, upon a rich deep loam, demand poles ſeven yards long. Few others require them more than eighteen feet; whilſt the Newcomb and Nonpareil, being great bearers, ſhould not have poles, even on the beſt ſoil, more than fifteen feet long.

The poles are erected in the following manner. The workman, with an iron crow or bar, makes a couple of holes about twelve inches deep oppoſite each other near the outſide of every ſtock, in a direct line throughout the hop-yard. In each of theſe he fixes a pole with its lower end ſharped about ſix or eight inches, taking care to diſpoſe the tops of the poles in ſuch a man-

ner, that they may incline a little outwards; leſt the hops ſhould be entangled, and prevent either the acceſs of the ſun, or the free circulation of the air. The poles being thus fixed, and the earth rammed cloſe, as ſoon as the wires are long enough to run up the poles they are tied with ruſhes brought to market for that purpoſe. In tying them great care ſhould be taken not to do it ſo tightly as to hinder their eaſy aſcent. It is not entirely unworthy of obſervation in this place, that the Hop-vine invariably turns from Eaſt to Weſt with the ſun, whilſt the Kidney-bean and the Bearbine aſcend in a contrary direction.

As the wires increaſe in height they are tied in two or three places to prevent their being injured by the winds, and care is taken not to permit more than four wires to grow from one ſtock, two to each pole, the reſt being plucked up and weeded out: for if a greater number were permitted, they would not only exhauſt the root, but be ſo matted and entangled as to ſhut out the ſun and air, which, tho' neceſſary to the ſalubrity of every plant, are more requiſite to

to the welfare of the hop, than almoſt any other vegetable production.

Towards the latter end of May, or beginning of June the hop-yards are *kerfed*, i. e. the *alleys* are hoed, and the mould thrown up about the ſtocks. At Midſummer the alleys are *ſhovelled* again, and in the beginning of July the tumps are finally made up. The ſize of theſe tumps ſomewhat differs according to the ſoil. Where the loam is ſhallow, and the ſubſoil bad, it is neceſſary to have larger tumps, but upon good deep land, they do not uſually exceed two feet and a half over, and fifteen inches high.

In plough hop-yards ridges thrown up againſt the ſtocks are a ſubſtitute for tumps: nevertheleſs the *kerf* or ſpade muſt be liberally uſed, if the planter wiſhes to ſecure an advantageous crop.

About the middle of July the hop-plant bloſſoms, in which ſtate it continues for three weeks. At the end of that period the hop is formed, and in three weeks more arrives at maturity: ſo that from the com-

 mencement

mencement of the bloſſom to the ſeaſon of picking is ſix weeks. The uſual indications of its ripeneſs are, when the hop aſſumes a browniſh colour, and yields a fragrant ſmell. On the firſt appearance of theſe ſymptoms preparations are made for picking. Many farmers however, on account of their large plantations, are obliged to begin earlier: but ſuch hops, tho' beautiful in appearance, are by no means equal in ſtrength to thoſe pulled at a later period.

Hops are pulled in the following manner. A frame of wood called a *Hop-crib* is prepared, ten or a dozen feet long, and four wide, ſupported by four legs. In the inſide of this frame is ſuſpended a coarſe *hurden* cloth, to receive the hops as they are picked. A workman then cutting the wires a foot above the tumps, and pulling up the poles, brings them to the crib, acroſs which they are placed; whilſt ſix or eight hop-pullers ſtrip off the hops, throwing the poles aſide. Whilſt the hop-pullers are buſied in * picking,

a

* In large plantations we may frequently ſee half a dozen cribs in uſe at the ſame time. The greater part of the hop-pullers are women

a proportionate number of workmen and horſes are employed in carrying the hops to the kilns; for if not conveyed thither in a ſhort time, a fermentation will generally take place; which not only diſcolours, but eſſentially injures the value of the hops.

Hops are dried with *coaks* or *charks* i. e. pit-coal *charked*, upon kilns of a conſtruction ſomething ſimilar to that of malt kilns. Of theſe kilns many farmers have ſix or eight in number, according to the extent of their plantations. At preſent they are conſtructed after two different methods. The old Herefordſhire kilns are built with a flue or chimney from eight to twelve feet high, at the top of which is, what is commonly called, a *brick-lanthern*, to diſtribute the heat in a regular manner to every part of the kilns. Lately however the kentiſh kilns have been introduced, which open immediately from the fire place like a very large hopper, by which means their ſurface can be

women and children, who have generally ſixpence a day, drink and breakfaſt every morning, beſides a dinner twice every week.

As a large quantity of the grain in Herefordſhire is cut by welſhmen, ſo almoſt one half of the hops is pulled by women who come down from wales for that purpoſe.

be extended to a dozen feet ſquare, whilſt the others are ſeldom made ſo large. Inſtead of a *lanthern*, a large flat ſtone, called a *ſparkling ſtone* is placed horizontally about a foot from the top upon ſome iron bars, to prevent the hops immediately over the fire from being ſcorched.

Of the reſpective merit of theſe kilns, there are various and contradictory opinions, ſome planters preferring the old and ſome the new. The truth ſeems to be, that theſe new kilns, from their greater draught of rarified air, dry the hops ſooner *, as well as preſerve them of a brighter and more delicate colour: at the ſame time however they conſume a far larger quantity of *chark*, and require a more patient and unwearied attention to prevent their being injured by the fire.

The drying of hops is generally believed to be a myſtery, into which it is no eaſy taſk to be properly initiated. By the beſt accounts

* The new kilns will dry a kiln-full of hops five inches thick, in eight hours, but the old kilns will ſeldom do it in leſs than ten.

accounts that the author could arrive at, it appears that the hops ſhould be placed very ſmooth upon the kiln with the aſſiſtance of a rake; and by no means more than five inches thick. For when they are heaped very thick, the hops next the fire will not only be ſcorched and injured before thoſe on the top be warmed through; but the paſſages being almoſt entirely ſhut up through which the air ſhould aſcend, the ſteam will hover and reſt amongſt the hops till they are *coddled* or diſcoloured: on which account they are neither ſo uſeful for brewing, nor ſo valuable in the market.

The next requiſite is an even, ſteady, ſlow, fire. It is alſo extremely neceſſary that the room over the kiln ſhould be open and airy to permit the ſteam or ſmoke to fly off, which, when checked in its progreſs, or thrown back upon the hops, will invariably *coddle* them. With reſpect to turning the hops, no conſtant method prevails: it is not thought adviſeable however to do it oftener than twice, or three times at the moſt; and it is alſo recommended, not to turn them the firſt time until they be nearly dried through. When

When the core is thoroughly dry, and the ſtalk brittle; alſo when the leaves feel criſp to the hand, and have left off ſweating, the hops are taken off the kiln, and ſpread in an adjoining room for the ſpace of an hour, and then run over with a ſmall hand roller to ſeparate the leaves from the ſtem, and render them more beautiful to the eye. Some people, inſtead of rolling, riddle, or beat them with a ſmall ſtick, in order to produce the ſame effect, but theſe cuſtoms are not to be recommended. When they have been thrown up, for three or four days, into a heap to *ſweat*, and they begin to *give* a little, or feel moiſt to the touch, they are immediately put in bags; as it is of great conſequence that this be done in proper ſeaſon: for if bagged too ſoon they will crumble to powder, and if left too long, they become flat, and their flavour and ſtrength evaporate.

The common method of bagging is as follows. A round hole is made in an upper floor, wide enough to receive a hop-bag, the top of which is faſtened to a hoop placed round the hole. Into this bag one man

man deſcends and treads the hops, whilſt another throws them in till the bag be full. This being finiſhed, they are weighed by the * Exciſeman, and then taken to market.

H Hop-yards

* The following are the laws reſpecting Hops.

By the 27. G. 3. c. 13. it is enacted, That for every pound weight of hops grown in Great Britain, which ſhall be cured, a duty ſhall be paid by the owner or poſſeſſor of 1d. and 12 twentieths of a farthing. N. B. One pound in ten is allowed the planter for the ſack, ſo that in every 112lbs. he pays for 100lbs. and 8 tenths of a lb. only.

By the 9th. Ann. c. 12. Hop-grounds are to be entered on or before the firſt of Auguſt on pain of 40s. an acre, but no perſon to do this ſhall be obliged to go further than to the next market town. And the Officer receiving the Notice ſhall in five days enter the ſame on pain of 40s.

By the ſame ſtatute, no perſon ſhall uſe any ouſt, ſtore-houſe or other place, or any kiln for curing or keeping of hops, unleſs notice thereof ſhall have been given, on pain of 50l. ſ. 8.

And in ſix weeks after gathering all hops ſhall be brought and bagged at ſuch places on pain of 5s. a lb. ſ. 9.

By ſ. 15, of the ſame ſtatute. The Officer ſhall at all times, by day or night, if in the night in preſence of a Conſtable, be permited to enter ſuch places, under penalty of 20l.

By the 6. G. c. 21. ſ. 25. Owners of hops are to give notice of bagging and weighing, under their hands, 24 hours before they bag or weigh the firſt week, and 48 hours afterwards, on pain of 50l.

The owners ſhall keep at their ſtore-houſes &c. weights and ſcales, and ſhall not ſuffer any falſe weights to be uſed on pain of 20l. ſame ſtat. ſ. 26.

And by the 10 G. 3. c. 44. A penalty of 100l. is inflicted for falſe ſcales or weights, but the offender ſhall not be proſecuted on both acts.

By

Hop-yards worked by the hand continue from forty to fifty years, if well manured; but plough-hopyards do not uſually flouriſh more than twenty. Where the land is rich, deep and loamy, there is no great neceſſity for manure: if, on the contrary it be a light and gravelly ſoil, or has been lately converted

By the 14 G. 3. c. 68. ſ. 12. The Officer ſhall on pain of 5l. weigh the bags or pockets; and if he marks the weight of the hops upon any bag before he has weighed it, he ſhall forfeit 40s

Any perſon who ſhall forge alter or obliterate any ſuch mark, ſhall forfeit 10l. or in default of ſuch payment ſhall be impriſoned ſix months, or 'till the penalty ſhall be paid, ſ. 3. but actions are limited to ſix calendar months after the ſale of ſuch hops, ſ. 4. The Officer to make an entry of the weight, leaving a true copy with the planter if demanded: On his neglecting or refuſing to leave ſuch copy after demand in writing he ſhall forfeit 5l. 9. Ann. c. 12. ſ. 11.

And by the 9. Ann. c. 12. ſ. 16. No planter &c. ſhall on pain of 50l. remove hops from his ouſt &c. 'till they have been cured bagged and weighed, unleſs where the Officer after notice ſhall not attend ſuch bagging &c.

By the 6. G. c. 21. Hops may be put into caſks under the like regulations.

The rebagging of foreign hops in Britiſh bagging for ſale or exportation incurs a forfeiture of 10l. a Cwt. and defrauding the king of his duty by uſing twice or oftener the ſame bag, with the Officers mark upon it is liable to a penalty of 40l. 9. Ann. c. 12. ſ. 23.

Concealment of hops ſubject to the forfeiture of 20l. and the hops concealed. Same ſtat. ſ. 17.

Any perſon who ſhall privately convey away any hops with intent to defraud the king and the owner ſhall forfeit 5s. a lb. ſ. 18.

The

converted from arable into hop-ground, it will generally require ſome aſſiſtance once in three years. For this purpoſe, a compoſt of rotten dung, earth, and lime well mixed together, is preferred to every other ſpecies of manure. The moſt uſual method of applying it, is to put two or three ſpade-fulls upon the *eye* of each ſtock either in the month of October or November. By this means the ſtocks are cheriſhed and kept warm

The planter ſhall in ſix months after weighing pay the duty on pain of double duty: two thirds to the king and one third to the informer. 9. Ann. c. 12. ſ. 14.

Any perſon who ſhall mix with hops any drug or ingredient to alter the colour or ſcent ſhall forfeit 5l. a Cwt. 7. G. 2. c. 19. ſ. 2.

By the 9. Ann. c. 12. No common brewer &c. ſhall uſe any broom, wormwood or any bitter ingredient to ſerve inſtead of hops on pain of 20l. except to make broom or wormwood ale. ſ. 24.

By the 26. G. 3. c. 5. Hops of Britiſh growth may be exported to Ireland, duties having been duly charged; if relanded they ſhall be forfeited, together with the penalty of the bond given to the commiſſioners that the ſaid hops ſhall not be relanded

Any perſon who ſhall unlawfully and malicioufly cut any hop-bines, growing on poles, in any plantation of hops ſhall be guilty of felony without benefit of Clergy. 6. G. 2. c. 37. ſ. 5, 6

By the 27. G. 3. c. 13. Every Cwt. of hops imported ſhall pay a duty of 5l. 18s. 10d. and there ſhall be allowed a drawback on exportation of 4l. 3s. 4d.

And by 7 G 2. c 19. Foreign hops landed before entry ſhall be forfeited and burnt in ten days after condemnation; the Ship ſhall

during the winter ſeaſon, and when the tumps are thrown down the enſuing ſpring, the compoſt mixes with the ſurrounding earth, 'till it is ſhovelled up to the roots, when the hopyards are *dreſſed*.

The diſeaſes incident to hops, which are the *Blight*, the *Mould* and the *Honey-dew*, have employed the ſagacity and exerciſed the ingenuity of various enquirers, without much hopes of diſcovering any ſatisfactory remedy for theſe evils. To prevent the *blight*, which is ſuppoſed to be firſt brought on by ſome unkindneſs in the atmoſphere, and accelerated afterwards by the accumulation of very minute inſects upon the plant, fumigation has been frequently recommended; but not to mention the endleſs trouble and difficulty of the taſk, the ſucceſs has not been ſuch, as to cauſe any great extenſion of the practice. As

ſhall alſo be forfeited, and the perſon concerned in importing ſhall forfeit 5l. a Cwt. The penalties aforeſaid (where not otherwiſe directed) ſhall be recovered and mitigated by the laws of Exciſe; half to the king and half to him who ſhall ſue. 9 Ann. c 12. 26. G 3. c 5. ſ 8.

Finally all hops in the cuſtody of any planter or owner, or any perſon in truſt for him ſhall be liable to the duties in arrear, and alſo to the penalties in the ſame manner as if the debtor or offender were the lawful owner. 9 Ann, c 12. ſ 19.

As to the *Mould* it equally eludes the vigilance of the hop-planter, and often deſtroys all his hopes, without any ſucceſsful remedy. Freſh dung almoſt invariably brings on this diſtemper, which, when once introduced into a hop-yard, is ſeldom or ever driven out: yet it is worthy of remark, that upon wet *galley* lands, this diſorder has ſometimes been cured by draining, which is a ſtrong indication that its origin is ſeated in the root.

With reſpect to the *Honey-dew*, it is generally thought to be an unkindly and exceſſive perſpiration which cannot be prevented but by rejecting ſuch ſituations as appear to be cloſe and confined.

The following is a ſtatement of the expence and profits of an acre of hop-land for the five firſt years, communicated by a hop-planter, on whoſe experience, and accuracy of calculation, the author can with confidence rely.

" Every acre of hop-ground contains one thouſand hills, and every ſtatute acre of land contains

contains one acre and a half of hop-ground and a few fractions more at five feet three inches diſtance between the hills: and the rent of every acre of hop-land is upon an average twenty ſhillings a year."

FIRST YEAR.

	L.	S.	D.
Rent per annum 1ſt. year -	1	0	0
Workmanſhip 1ſt. year - -	1	3	0
Five thouſand roots at 6d, per hundred - - - - - -	1	5	0
Two thouſand poles at 12s. per hundred delivered at the Hop-yard.	12	0	0

SECOND YEAR.

Second year's rent and * workmanſhip	2	3	0
Produce on average four Cwt. The † picking of which at 7s. 6d. per Cwt. - - - - - -	1	10	0
Drying ditto at 5s. - - - - -	1	0	0

Cloth

* The workmanſhip of plough-hopyards is not ſo much as one pound per acre. The plough-work being about 3s. 9d. and the hand-work 10s. making together 13s. 9d.

† Nothing varies more than the expence of picking hops. When the hops are large and the crop good, the picking does not coſt more than 5s. a hundred weight: but when the hops are ſmall and the crop bad, they will coſt upwards of 10s, a hundred.

	L.	S.	D.
Cloth and packing - - - - -	0	17	0
Tythe - - - - -	0	8	0
* Manure - - - -	0	15	0
Duty nearly - - - -	1	18	7
	23	19	7
A Cwt. at 4l. the average price	16	0	0
Loſs to the planter the two firſt years	7	19	7

OTHER THREE YEARS.

Three years polage at two hundred per year - - - - -	3	12	0
Rent - - - - -	3	0	0
Workmanſhip - - - -	3	9	0
Picking twelve Cwt. - - -	4	10	0
Drying ditto. - - -	3	0	0
Cloth and package - - - -	2	11	0
Tythe - - - - -	1	4	0
Manure - - - -	2	5	0
Duty nearly - - - - - -	5	15	9
Expence attending one acre three years - - - - -	29	6	9

Brought

* The expence of manure is not eaſily aſcertained. It is here put down at 5s. a year, upon a ſuppoſition that the land is poor and ſtands in need of being frequently manured. Where the land is good the expence will conſequently be leſs.

	L.	S.	D.
Brought forward for two firſt years	23	19	7
	53	6	4
Sixteen Cwt. at 4l. - - - -	64	0	0
	53	6	4
Profit to the Planter in five years	10	13	8

From this review it appears that the profits of a hop-yard, are little more than adequate to the expence. How then, it may be aſked, have ſuch large fortunes been accumulated from hops, and whence ſprings the rage for extenſive plantations now ſo prevalent? To this it may be replied, that the common annual gains, neither enrich the pocket, nor attract the regard of the hop-planter. On the contrary it is the prodigious advantages derived from a proſperous and lucky *hit*, when there is a partial failure, that invigorate his hopes, and enliven his activity in the cultivation of this plant. But many others who are ſpectators of his extraordinary good fortune, are affected by the like contagion without experiencing a ſimilar degree of ſucceſs.

Upon

Upon the whole, tho' many have acquired large Eſtates by hops, their real advantage as an article of cultivation, is perhaps rather more queſtionable than is generally ſuppoſed. By engroſſing the attention of the farmer, they neceſſarily withdraw him from ſlower, but more certain ſources of wealth. They teach him to ſubſtitute hope for labour, and of courſe introduce indolence and bad huſbandry. They encourage him to rely too much upon chance for his rent, and to depend upon the welfare of the *Hop-bine*, rather than the honeſt labour of the plough. In ſhort they teach him to aſpire at that rapid increaſe in wealth, which, tho' granted to ſome, has been the bane of many adventurers, by making them forego the more humble advantages which were in their power. — To the Landlord the cultivation of hops is evidently an evil, defrauding the arable land of its proper quantity of manure, and thereby exhauſting and impoveriſhing his Eſtate. — To the poor on the contrary, Hops are more beneficial. The culture and picking of them afford employment and ſupport for a conſiderable part of the year, which otherwiſe they might ſquander away in in-

 dolence,

dolence, neither with comfort to themſelves nor advantage to the community.

The next articles of produce that merit attention are CIDER and PERRY in which this county ſtands unrivalled, not only in the excellency of thoſe liquors, but alſo in the abundance with which they are produced. Indeed, the firſt idea which ariſes in the mind upon entering Herefordſhire is that of an extenſive orchard: almoſt every meadow as well as field being interſperſed with a variety of Apple or Pear-trees. This Orchard-like appearance does not perhaps contribute much to the pictureſque beauty of the country; but it affords the traveller in return a comfortable aſſurance of plenty, when contraſted with the naked and barren heaths of leſs favoured diſtricts. If he chances to paſs through the county in May or September, his pleaſure will be conſiderably augmented. During the former of theſe months, if there happens to be a *good bloſſom*, the county affords an univerſal bluſh of beauty, and preſents a fragrance to the ſenſation not unlike what travellers report of the delicious gales of ſome of the Eaſtern climates. In September,

September, however, the ſcene is ſtill more delightful: * for at that ſeaſon the trees not only bend under their burden of fruit, and require to be propped up, but the addition of a great number of hop-plantations in their full perfection, compleats ſuch a richneſs of ſcenery as the imagination can hardly conceive.

It is reaſonable to expect that the original clime and hiſtory of all thoſe productions of the earth, which are either the ſolid ſupport of human life, or tend to cheer and enliven our exiſtence, would have been aſcertained and delivered down to poſterity with care and preciſion. But ſuch is the nature of mankind, and ſo powerful his paſſion for novelty, that his attention can ſeldom be long confined to thoſe objects that ſurround him. The herb which vegetates under his feet, or the tree that bloſſoms in his garden, are ſo familiar to his eye, that he overlooks theſe wonderful operations of nature; and

* It is either in alluſion to theſe orchards or to the fertility of the country in general that we have the following couplet handed down to us.

" Bleſs'd is the Eye "
" Between Severn and Wye. "

his mind flying off to new and remote objects, he ſacrifices the neceſſary and uſeful parts of knowledge, to abſtruſe ſcience and airy ſpeculation. Hence it is that the bulk of mankind are almoſt totally unſkilled in the volume of nature, tho' it lies continually open to their view. And hence it is, that whilſt the progreſs of the ſciences has been traced with great accuracy from their firſt reſidence in the Eaſt, we do not ſo much as know the original clime and country of the various ſorts of grain, which are the ſtaff and ſupport of our exiſtence.

Of wheat we know little beſides the vague account that it was introduced from Ægypt into Sicily, where the cultivation of it was firſt taught by *Ceres*, who had on that account divine honours paid to her. But whether Ægypt was its original and native clime, and likewiſe whether it be a natural or artificial production, remains at preſent, and is likely to remain in impenetrable obſcurity.

With reſpect to the Apple and Pear, their origin and native clime are likewiſe involved in

in the ſame uncertainty. The popular opinion is, that they are both natural productions originally brought from Normandy in France, where they are ſuppoſed to grow ſpontaneouſly in the higheſt perfection: but when tranſplanted into this kingdom, where the clime is leſs genial, and the ſoil not ſo kindly, they dwindle away to Crabs, which are thought to be degenerate varieties of thoſe original fruits. Truth however is often widely diſtant from popular opinion: and here it ſeems to be ſo in a very remarkable manner; for the Apple and Pear are not natural, but artificial or rather perhaps fortuitous productions, and therefore neither in Normandy nor any other climate whatſoever can they be propagated with ſucceſs in the natural way. The climate of Normandy may perhaps be more friendly to ſome of the delicate kind of Apples; and it is probable that many of them were firſt brought to perfection there: but it is alſo equally as probable that many very valuable ſorts of Apples have been originally raiſed in this Kingdom. The fact is, the common wild crabs which grow ſpontaneouſly in this Kingdom as well as Normandy, and many other

other parts of the world, are the real original fruit: all our apples and pears, however grateful and delicious in flavour, being only meliorated and artificial varieties of thoſe parent fruits, to which they have a ſtrong and natural tendency to return, unleſs cultivated and reſtrained by the hand of man.

As a proof of this, if you ſow the kernels of the very beſt and moſt highly flavoured apples, the ſeedlings will not produce ſimilar apples, but a hardy and degenerate offspring; and, what is very ſingular, the fruit of every different * apple will be of various and different qualities. The kernels of theſe ſown again will produce apples of a ſtill more degenerate kind, till by a frequent repetition of the proceſs, they will at laſt relapſe into the original wild crab.

It is to be obſerved, however, that this general rule is not without exceptions. If you ſow a number of apple kernels in a highly cultivated ſoil, and ſuffer the ſeedlings to

* It has been aſſerted by ſome, that kernels of the ſame Apple will produce different kinds of fruit, but I have not met with any one who has actually made the experiment.

to grow up till they bear, about three in every thouſand will be ſome valuable varieties, and the reſt a degenerate tribe, approaching to the nature of crabs. The ſame peculiarity is likewiſe obſervable in the produce of crab-kernels. From every thouſand ſeedlings of theſe, you will have a like number of improved fruit trees: and no doubt but all the valuable varieties of apples and pears were originally obtained by frequently repeating this proceſs, firſt with the crabs, and afterwards with the improved varieties.*

Naturaliſts tell us, that this melioration of the fruit, ariſes from accident; and the valuable varieties are to be conſidered in no other light than mere *Luſus Naturæ*. But the

* The Redſtreak Apple was thus obtained by the celebrated Lord Scudamore, not much more than a century ago.

> But how with equal numbers ſhall we match
> The Muſk's ſurpaſſing worth?
> Yet let her to the Redſtreak yield, that once
> Was of the ſylvan kind, unciviliz'd
> Of no regard, till Scudamore's ſkilful hand
> Improv'd her, and by courtly diſcipline
> Taught her the ſavage nature to forget:
> Hence ſtil'd the Scudamorean plant.
>
> Philips' Cider.

the diſciples of Linnæus are of opinion, that the flowers of that fruit, whoſe kernels afterwards produce theſe improved varieties, have had their own *farina* waſhed away, and been impregnated with *farina* from ſome neighbouring fruit-trees of a ſuperior quality. Admitting this to be the caſe, the grand queſtion is, how were theſe meliorated varietes produced originally, when there were no improved fruit-trees from which they might be impregnated? Here I am afraid this beautiful and enchanting ſyſtem will fail us, which is much to be regretted, as the hypotheſis of the *farina* of one flower impregnating another, if confirmed by fact, would enable us eaſily to account for all thoſe numerous varieties of fruit, which are often raiſed from apples gathered off the ſame tree.

An opinion formerly prevailed, which indeed is not quite obſolete at preſent, that the ſtock on which the graft was inſerted had a conſiderable ſhare in debaſing or improving the fruit. Accordingly *Sir William Temple*, in his *Gardens of Epicurus*, ſays "that the beſt apples and pears, are raiſed "from

"from the beſt kinds grafted upon ſtocks, "from kernels of the beſt ſorts." The ſame doctrine has led many people to imagine that the flavour and excellency of the apple might be farther advanced by repeatedly grafting the ſame ſort of trees with each others cuttings. But the moſt eminent Botaniſts and Naturaliſts are now perſuaded, that the ſtock, whether that of a crab, or an apple, can have no influence whatſoever upon the fruit, which will be identically the ſame with that of the tree from which the graft was taken. In accounting for this they ſay, that each variety of fruit trees has a ſet of veſſels peculiar to it ſelf; that it matters not in what form the juices which ſupply and nouriſh the fruit, aſcend the ſtock, whether in a crude or a refined ſtate; whether thro' a crab-ſtock, or that of an apple highly improved, and grafted half a dozen times; becauſe when this nouriſhment arrives at the inſertion of the graft, it is ſo entirely filtered and digeſted afreſh by thoſe peculiar veſſels, as to produce exactly the ſame ſort of fruit, with the parent tree.

Having premiſed thus much concerning the

Apple and Pear-tree, I ſhall now proceed to deſcribe the method of propagating and planting apple-trees, and converting the fruit into liquor, as it is generally practiſed in this county.

In propagating apple-trees, the firſt thing requiſite is to procure ſtocks to graft upon. Theſe are either raiſed from apple or crab kernels, according to the will of the planter. Many perſons preferring a preſent ſmall profit, to a large future advantage, make choice of apple ſtocks, becauſe they grow faſter than the crab, and will bear fruit ſooner by three or four years. But this œconomy is loudly and deſervedly condemned by the moſt judicious planters, who are all unanimous in giving the preference to crabſtocks, becauſe they are of a more hardy nature, and better adapted to the ſoil of this country. As a conſequence of this they are leſs apt to be moſſy, not ſo liable to the canker, and make far more healthy and laſting trees, generally continuing to bear twenty or thirty years, after apple-ſtocks of the ſame age have fallen to decay.

Some

Some times however, apple kernels are ſown and the ſeedlings ſuffered to grow up into trees without undergoing the operation of grafting. In this caſe a degenerate, but firm fruit is produced, which, tho' not alluring to the palate, is often found to produce cider of a ſuperior quality. The fruit thus obtained is known by the name of *kernel fruit*, becauſe it ſprings immediately from the kernel of the apple, without any artificial proceſs. As almoſt every different tree, thus reared, produces a different ſort of fruit, it is by this means that all the freſh varieties are diſcovered, the moſt valuable of which are afterwards preſerved by the operation of grafting.

The method of procuring and ſowing kernels for ſtocks is generally as follows: The apples or crabs being ground, and the liquor *expreſſed*, the *muſt* or *reſiduum*, commonly called the *cheeſe*, is ſpread in a convenient room or chamber to * dry, and ſown in November or February following, either in drills,

* Many farmers do not take this trouble, but bury the Muſt and Kernels all together in a ſeed-bed, immediately after cider-making, tranſplanting the ſeedlings, as they grow up, into a nurſery.

or broad-caſt, on a rich and highly cultivated ſeed-bed, which ought to be kept perfectly clean from weeds. But this cuſtom of raiſing ſtocks from the kernels remaining in the *muſt*, tho' it obtains almoſt univerſally, is by no means to be recommended: becauſe when the apples or crabs are properly ground, the largeſt and beſt kernels will invariably be cruſhed in the mill. It is therefore evidently a better method to ſelect the ſeed from the fruit before grinding, by which means the largeſt and plumpeſt kernels, and thoſe from the beſt and moſt kindly bearing trees, may at a certainty be obtained.

When the ſeedlings ſpring up very thick, it is not uncommon to plant out ſome of the ſtrongeſt of them into the nurſery the ſucceeding winter. The greater number, however, generally remain two years in the ſeed-bed; at which time, about the beginning of October, they are all taken up, their downward or tap roots being cut off, and planted out into the nurſery, in rows wide enough to admit of a paſſage between, and two feet diſtant from each other in the rows.

The

The nurſery, like the ſeed-bed, generally conſiſts of a rich deep ſoil, double dug and well cultivated. But many planters, whoſe orchard-lands are light and impoveriſhed, proteſt againſt a rich nurſery; affirming, that it is imprudent to habituate their ſtocks to a deep loamy ſoil, which muſt ſhortly be relinquiſhed for one more ſhallow and inhoſpitable. This, ſay they, is extending the ſap-veſſels, ſo as afterwards to require a double portion of nouriſhment: and is juſt like pampering a perſon with high living in his youth, and afterwards conſigning him to bread and water, which will inevitably bring on a ſickly habit. Whereas had he been accuſtomed to a ſpare diet from his infancy, health would moſt probably have glowed on his cheek, and he would have become ſtrong, active, and robuſt. Influenced by ſuch conſiderations as theſe, many planters endeavour to ſuit the ſoil of their nurſeries to that of their orchards, and for this uſe often appropriate the moſt barren ſpot of land upon their eſtate, which is afterwards ſuffered to be overgrown with graſs and weeds. But tho' this reaſoning may appear ſatisfactory to many, it is far from convincing the man of ſcience.

ſcience. Every perſon the leaſt acquainted with nurſeries or gardens, knows very well, that the chief reaſon for tranſplanting young trees, is to make them throw out horizontal ſhoots and fibres, which are the arms, or rather mouths, by which almoſt all nouriſhment is conveyed to the trees. Theſe ſhoots and fibres are produced partly by the tap-roots being taken off, and partly by being tranſplanted into a good freſh ſoil. Now, if a rich ſoil cauſes a tree to put out freſh ſide-ſhoots, it thereby increaſes the means of ſupport: ſo that a highly cultivated and rich nurſery ſeems to be more peculiarly neceſſary where the trees are afterwards to be planted out into a barren orchard. But perhaps it may be ſaid, what ſignifies the number of arms or mouths where no nouriſhment can be obtained? To this it is anſwered, that trees are never planted but where there is ſome ſupply of nouriſhment; and ten arms extended in proper directions, are more likely to obtain it than two or three only. Indeed, there is hardly any land ſo very poor, but what will afford a large ſupply of nouriſhment to trees whoſe roots are properly extended in queſt of it. No perſon can

have

have neglected to obſerve, how rapidly the Aſh and the Birch grow upon heaths the moſt barren and inhoſpitable: and the reaſon is, their roots are extended in every direction, juſt under the ſurface of the ground, ſo that hardly any food can eſcape them. As to the extenſion of the ſap-veſſels ſaid to be effected by a rich ſoil, it ſeems to be the argument of ingenuity rather than of ſolid reaſon; ſince we find by experience that thoſe ſtocks which have been produced upon the beſt land, generally become the moſt flouriſhing and healthy trees, notwithſtanding they may be removed afterwards to a more barren and impoveriſhed ſoil.

But altho' it may be laid down as a general rule that the ſeed-bed and the nurſery ought to conſiſt of a rich and highly cultivated ſoil, yet in ſome caſes it ſeems to be more immediately requiſite than in others. For inſtance, if you are endeavouring to raiſe up freſh varieties without grafting, it then becomes neceſſary that the improvement ſhould be attempted upon a good ſoil: but if you are merely propagating the old ſorts, a leſs degree of richneſs will ſuffice.

The

The ſtocks whilſt in the nurſery are trimmed twice a year; and when arrived at half an inch in diameter, they are generally ſaddle-grafted, * about a foot from the ground, with a ſhoot of the laſt year's growth, from any of the various ſorts which it is the wiſh of the planter to propagate. In ſelecting theſe grafts, care ſhould be taken to obtain them from healthy middle aged trees. For want of due attention in this reſpect, the diſeaſes of one tree are often communicated to another, and the moſt valuable varieties of fruit injured and debaſed. Hence no doubt it is, that many of the moſt noted fruits of this county, ſuch as the *Stire*, the *Redſtreak* and the *Woodcock* are almoſt every where degenerated from that celebrity and perfection to which they had once attained.

Young trees are ſeldom tranſplanted more than once, before they are transferred to the

* Sometimes the ſtocks are not grafted in the nurſery, but planted out into the orchard firſt, and two years afterwards CLEFT-GRAFTED in the boughs. but this method is not approved of by judicious planters, becauſe the boughs are apt to break where the grafts were inſerted.

The moſt expeditious method of rearing fruit, is to inoculate or bud your ſtock at three years old, and in two years more you will have fruit.

the Orchard; but if you would have them ſucceed well, eſpecially on poor paſture-land, they ſhould be tranſplanted in the nurſery, twice at leaſt, if not oftener. In doing this not only the tap roots ſhould be cut away, but the long ſide-rootlets alſo ſhould be ſhortened, becauſe by this means the feeding fibres will be multiplied, and brought near the ſtem; ſo that they may be removed into the orchard along with the tree, inſtead of being left behind, which is two often the caſe. During the continuance of the trees in the nurſery, they are pruned, the under branches taken off, and the leader trained ſeven or eight feet high, to be out of the reach of cattle, and admit a free paſſage under for the operations of huſbandry.

As ſoon as the trees begin to bear, they are taken up with their roots as entire as poſſible, and planted out into the orchard about twenty yards diſtant from each other in croſs lines, for the conveniency of ploughing the land. Sometimes we obſerve them planted in meadow or paſture land at the ſmall diſtance of ſeven or eight yards only, but this is by no means an eligible practice,

for as the trees neceſſarily ſhade each other, the rain hangs upon their branches, and renders them moſt commonly moſſy and unproductive.

Hop-grounds are by far the moſt deſirable land for nurſing up a young orchard, on which account they are generally applied to that uſe. By the time the trees become troubleſome and injurious, the hopyards are exhauſted and *thrown down*. Other lands are then converted into hopyards, which in their turn become nurſeries for future orchards.

In planting out the young trees into the orchard, their under branches are pruned, and the leader or top bough cut off. This gives a proper ſhape to the trees, makes their ſide ſhoots expand into boughs, and forms a round and buſhy head. It was mentioned before that the roots of the trees ſhould be taken up as unmutilated as poſſible: and here it may be added, that they ſhould not be ſhortened as formerly, leſt the growth and ſucceſs of the trees ſhould be impeded. With reſpect to planting out trees, it is not here intended to enter into a profeſſional minuteneſs:

minuteneſs: but it may be obſerved, that the holes ſhould be dug ſufficiently capacious to admit the roots with eaſe, but by no means ſo deep as to penetrate through the upper ſtratum of good mould. In returning this mould into the hole, that from the ſurface ſhould be thrown in firſt, that the roots and fibres may be ſupplied with fit nouriſhment. Where the land is meadow or paſture, the turf is uſually chopped ſmall and applied to this uſe. Great attention ſhould alſo be paid that the trees be ſet as ſhallow as poſſible; at any rate however not deeper than they grew in the nurſery. By this means their ſide ſhoots, inſtead of encountering and penetrating a cold clay, or barren gravel, which would ſtint the growth of the trees, bring a profuſion of moſs, and probably introduce the canker; will find greater plenty of food, as well as more grateful accommodation nearer the ſurface. Add to this that the roots of ſuch trees as are ſet ſhallow, receive great advantage from the ſun, the rain, and the manure of cattle; of which, thoſe buried deeper in the ground, are in a great meaſure deprived.

The young trees being planted out into the orchard are faſtened with ſtakes, and well ſecured either by rails or thorns from the depredations of cattle. This expence however is ſaved in hopyards, becauſe thither no cattle are ever admitted. The boughs are alſo trimmed every year, and kept in due ſubjection, leſt being too heavy for the ſtems, they ſhould lend additional violence to the winds, and thus contribute to eradicate the trees.

With reſpect to *manure*, when orchards are planted upon tillage, and eſpecially on hop-ground, the uſual cultivation of ſuch lands renders it unneceſſary; but if the orchard conſiſts of paſture or meadow-lands, the hoer's ſpade ſhould be employed, once a year at leaſt, to looſen the earth round the roots in order to give a ready admiſſion to the ſun and rain, and ſome earth from the headlands, or rotten dung, applied to the roots of the young trees: but of all kinds of manure, pig's dung from its ſaponaceous and cool nature, is by far the moſt agreeable and beneficial to the apple-tree, whereas moſt other kinds of dung are apt to bring on the canker. Sometimes

Sometimes young trees will not increaſe in growth for ſeveral years after being tranſplanted, but will become moſſy and hide-bound. In ſuch caſes it is uſual to cut the bark of the ſtem from the top to the bottom with a ſharp-pointed knife. This is provincially called *ſcoring* the trees, and is ſaid to be inſtrumental in promoting their growth. As the trees advance towards maturity, all ſuperfluous wood * ſhould be taken from amongſt the branches and the miſſletoe cut off, which is very apt to attach itſelf to the apple-tree. Theſe neceſſary operations however are not attended to with ſufficient care, on which account we may obſerve many trees covered with moſs, or loaded with miſſletoe, which by proper management might be rendered far more healthy and productive. Sometimes indeed trees will become moſſy and

* 'Twill profit when the ſtork, ſworn foe of ſnakes,
Returns, to ſhew compaſſion to thy plants
Fatigu'd with breeding. Let the arched knife
Well ſharpen'd now aſſail the ſpreading ſhades
Of vegitables, and their thirſty limbs
Diſſever: for the general moiſture due
To apples otherwiſe miſſpends itſelf
In barren twigs, and for th' expected crop,
Nought but vain ſhoots and empty leaves abound.

Philips's Cider.

and unhealthy, almoſt without a poſſibility of being remedied: as for inſtance, if they are ſet too deep in the ground, or in an impoveriſhed or bad ſoil, or if they be crouded too cloſely together, as has been already mentioned. But if none of theſe cauſes conſpire to bring on the moſs, it may eaſily be driven out of the orchard. To this end the pruning knife ſhould be freely exerted amongſt the boughs, the ſoil looſened round the trees, and ſome dung or freſh earth applied to the roots. With this cultivation the moſs will, in a ſhort time, relinquiſh its hold and fall to the ground, and the branches be left entirely ſmooth and healthy. Foddering cattle in an orchard will alſo produce the ſame good effect, which is accompliſhed no doubt, partly by their treading the ground, but more particularly by their manure.

Here it may be obſerved that Pear-trees are reared and propagated nearly in the ſame manner as apple-trees; that is, the ſtocks are raiſed from the kernel of the pear, and engrafted in the nurſery. The pear-ſtocks however are of much longer duration, often continuing

continuing to bear in a healthy manner for one hundred years and upwards. During this time, if the planter be inclined to change the ſorts, the limbs are all cut off, and new grafts inſerted of a different quality. This is practiſed ſometimes alſo upon the apple-tree, but by no means ſo frequently as upon the pear, whoſe ſtocks have been known to bear ſometimes even more than two generations of branches.

The ſoil moſt deſirable for an apple-orchard is a deep loamy clay, which gives not only richneſs, but a greater degree of ſtrength alſo to the cider. On this account the liquor generally *keeps* better than that from a light gravelly ſoil, which is apt to turn ſour for want of *body*. There are a few exceptions however to this general rule, the *Stire* and *Golden-pippin* ſucceeding beſt upon a light limeſtone ſoil. *Mr. Philips* in his Poem on Cider, either led away by ſome exceptions of this kind, or elſe adopting the ſentiments of the old writers, recommends a light gravelly land.

——"look where full ear'd ſheaves of rye
Grow

Grow wavy on the tilth, that ſoil ſelect
For Apples" ——

In deſcribing the places however moſt noted for good cider, he inſenſibly recounts many Pariſhes whoſe ſoil is quite the * contrary to what he recommends.

" Such is the † *Kentchurch*, ſuch ‡ *Danſean* ground,
" Such thine O learned § *Brome*, and ¶ *Capel*, ſuch
" *Williſian* ‖ *Burlton*, much lov'd *Geers* his a *Marſh*

" And

* See Dunſter's Annotations on Philips's cider.

† A ſeat belonging to Mr. Scudamore, Member for Hereford.

‡ Brinſop near Hereford, where the family of the Danſeys has a good property.

§ William Brome of Ewithington Eſq. a celebrated Antiquary, and ſcholar.

¶ King's-Capel, or How-Capel.

‖ An Eſtate called Burlton, in the pariſh of Burghill near Hereford, at the beginning of this century belonged to Brown Willis the celebrated Antiquary.

a The Marſh an Eſtate and Manſion Houſe in the pariſh of Bridge-Solers formerly belonged to Timothy Geers Eſq.

" And *Sutton* Acres* drench'd with regal blood
" Of *Ethelbert*, when to the unhallow'd feaſt
" Of *Mercian Offa* he invited came
" To treat of Spouſals."

Philips' Cider.

Of the ſeven places here celebrated for cider, five of them at leaſt conſiſt of a rich loamy ſoil with a clayey ſubſoil, which contradicts what was before advanced.

As to the pear-tree, it ſeems to be of a more hardy nature, flouriſhing almoſt whereſoever it is ſet by the planter. It loves indeed a deep clay, but diſdains not ſoils of a leſs hoſpitable quality. Here therefore the poet is more correct.

" If a penurious clay ſhould be thy lot,
" Or rough unwieldy earth, nor to the plough,
" Nor to the Cattle kind, with ſandy ſtones
" And gravel o'er abounding, think it not
" Beneath thy toil; the ſturdy pear tree here

* Sutton near Hereford, celebrated for being the reſidence of Offa, who there cruelly murdered Ethelbert King of the eaſt Angles.

" Will riſe luxuriant, and with toughest root
" Pierce the obſtructing grit, and reſtive marl."
Philips' Cider.

With reſpect to the *ſituation* and *aſpect* of an orchard, it is no eaſy matter to determine which are moſt advantageous: ſince we ſometimes obſerve one ſituation and ſometimes another to be highly ſucceſsful. It may be laid down however as a general rule, that orchards ſhould by no means be planted near a ſtream of water, or in a low damp ſituation; becauſe if there ſhould happen to be ſpring froſts, which are very common in this country, the fogs that naturally accompany them, and hang about ſuch places, will moſt inevitably deſtroy the tender bloſſoms; whilſt orchards in a higher ſituation, tho' more expoſed to the winds, are not ſo liable to be injured. This was remarkably the caſe in the year 1791. A finer or more vigorous bloom was ſcarcely ever remembered; but the nipping froſts during the months of May and June, entirely cut off the fruit in moſt of the lower grounds, whereby the hopes and expectations of the farmers were at once depreſſed and overwhelmed.

Having

Having finiſhed what was propoſed concerning the rearing and cultivation of Apple and Pear-trees, we ſhall now proceed to deſcribe the method of converting the fruit into liquor.

The firſt thing preparatory to making CIDER and PERRY, is to gather the fruit, and bring it to a proper ſtate of maturity. Here it may be obſerved, that unleſs the fruit be quite mellow and fully ripe before grinding, there will be no poſſibility of obtaining good Cider. It is the quality of all liquor obtained from unripe fruit to *fret*, i. e. ferment more than it ought; by which means, if it does not actually become ſour, it is rendered extremely harſh and diſagreeable. —— Many theoriſts in cider-making have therefore ſuggeſted, that the beſt, as well as the moſt natural way of managing fruit, would be to ſuffer it to remain upon the trees till it dropped through ripeneſs, when it ſhould be gathered and ſent directly to the mill. This is actually the caſe at preſent with ſome fruits that are naturally mellow, and ripen early; but it would be totally impracticable with the generality of

liquor-fruit, which, not ripening perhaps till the begining of December, would either be blown down by tempeſts, or injured by froſts, long before it would be perfectly mature. An artificial proceſs of compleating its maturity has therefore been adopted; which is, to let it remain upon the trees, till it will fall by a gentle agitation of the boughs, or at leaſt till it is in danger of being frozen,—Then to ſhake and clear the trees, and ſpread the fruit, in the open air, in heaps a foot or eighteen inches thick, turning it once or twice, in order to bring it to the ſame degree of mellowneſs and perfection. *

Fruit becomes mellow, in theſe heaps, and fit for grinding at different periods. Some pears as well as apples are fit for the mill in a very few days, whilſt others of a harder

* Would it not be a better way of maturing the fruit, to place it under a ſhed, or in a room where there ſhould be a free admiſſion of air? In that caſe the watery particles might fly off without any acceſſion of moiſture, in return, from the Atmoſphere. Moſt of the farmers loudly declaim againſt this propoſed plan, ſaying that the fruit would ſweat and become mouldy; but notwithſtanding their decided opinion upon the ſubject, it might not be very imprudent to make ſuch an experiment.

der quality require a month, ſix weeks, or even two * months before they arrive at their proper perfection. The experienced *Ciderift* therefore takes great care not to mix his fruit, but watches the mellowing of each different ſort, and as it begins to ſhew ſymptoms of approaching decay, carries it directly to the mill. If he wiſhes to make what is commonly called *prime* cider, he orders the beſt and melloweſt fruit only, to be ſelected by the hand rejecting all apples that are not perfectly mature, as well as ſuch as are rotten, and would be apt to communicate an unpleaſant flavour to the liquor.

Many farmers, however, who make cider merely for their own family drink, pay very litt'e attention either to keeping their fruit ſeparate, or to the proper maturing of it; on which account they have ſeldom any good palatable liquor in their cellars. But what ſuch cider loſes in *richneſs* and *flavour*, by bei.g prematurely made, is gained in roughneſs and ſtrength, which, to common cider-drinkers are far more valuable qualities.

The

* In this caſe the Apples and Pears are well ſecured from the froſts by ſtraw or peaſe-haulm.

The fruit, being fully matured, is taken to the * mill and ground till the kernels and rind be thoroughly bruiſed; for beſides that the liquor is chiefly indebted to them for its † ſtrength, the kernel furniſhes a pleaſant bitter, and the rind an eſſential aromatic oil, both of which contribute to lend an agreeable flavour to the liquor. The fruit, being ground to a perfect pap or mucilage, ſtands twenty or twenty four hours in an open veſſel, that the eſſence and virtue of the kernel and rind may be thoroughly extracted,

* For a deſcription of the Cider-mill and its Apparatus, ſee the ingenious Mr. Marſhall's rural œconomy of Glouceſterſhire, Vol. 2nd. page 308 &c. I here take an opportunity of making my acknowledgments to the afore mentioned Author, for the many uſeful hints I have received from him, eſpecially on the ſubject of fruit-liquor. Had not the nature and plan of this work OBLIGED me to give ſome account of Orchards and fruit-liquor, I ſhould, certainly not have attempted it after an author, who, altho a temporary viſitor only in this neighbourhood, has ſo much diſtinguiſhed himſelf for the extent of his obſervations and the acutneſs of his remarks.

† The late Lord Coningſby of Hampton-Court in this County, by way of experiment, pared and extracted the cores from ſome Apples which were afterwards converted into Cider; but the liquor was deficient in ſtrength and flavour, and preſently became ſour.

N. B. The ſmalleſt Apples, generally ſpeaking, make the beſt

extracted. It is then incloſed in layers of Hair-cloth, which are put in the preſs, and the liquor received in an open veſſel below, where a hair-ſieve is generally placed to catch the *muſt* which eſcapes through the hair-cloths, eſpecially when the fruit is mellow and perfectly reduced. Thoſe who are particularly curious in cider-making, return the *muſt* or *reſiduum* to the mill, and regrind it with ſome of the firſt runnings, in order to obtain the eſſence of the kernel and rind more effectually. Others break the *muſt-cakes* with their hands, and preſs a ſecond time without grinding, which often produces a gallon of liquor, altho' at the end of the firſt preſſing one drop could ſcarcely be obtained. Mr. MARSHALL, recommends the following very judicious plan to ſuch as wiſh to make prime cider. "Grind one "preſsful a day, and regrind the reſiduum "in the evening. Infuſe the reduced matter "all night among part of the firſt runnings, "and in the morning re-preſs, while the next "preſsful

beſt cider, on account of the large proportion of kernel and rind. It has alſo been obſerved that the beſt cider is made in a year of great plenty, when the trees are ſo loaded that the Apples do not arrive at their uſual ſize.

"preſsful is grinding." But in a country where there are ſuch large plantations, this practice can ſcarcely be expected to prevail. Accordingly the generality of farmers, by uſing too much expedition, ſpoil their liquor, neither grinding the fruit ſufficiently, nor giving the liquor time to imbibe the virtues of the rind and kernel. Their general practice is to make three hogſheads a day in one mill. The pomage is therefore taken from the mill, little more than half ground, and hurried into the preſs; whilſt the *muſt* or *reſiduum* is either thrown away as offal, or returned to the mill to be "*waſhed*," i. e. re-ground with * water for family drink.

In a ſcarce year, water is often thrown into the mill, during the operation of grinding, that the quantity of liquor may be increaſed; and it is to be regretted that this practice too often prevails in manufacturing liquors for ſale. It is urged in excuſe, that an exceſſive fermentation is thereby prevented, and

* It is uſual to make one hogſhead of "WASHINGS," which is a very pleaſant beverage, from the reſiduum of three hogſheads of Cider.

and that the cider *fines* ſooner. Theſe effects may poſſibly follow; but the liquor generally turns ſour whenever it is moved, and thereby involves not only fruit liquors, but alſo the country itſelf in diſgrace.

After preſſing, the next thing is to ferment the liquor, without which it will neither have ſtrength nor brightneſs.—The doctrine of fermentation is ſo little underſtood, that no uniform regular proceſs ſeems to be adopted. It is, however, generally agreed, that a due degree of warmth in the atmoſphere is neceſſary to make cider and perry ferment:—That after the firſt, or vinous fermentation has been compleated, the liquor ſhould be drawn off the lees as bright as poſſible, and placed in a cool ſituation leſt the acid fermentation ſhould come on, which will make it extremely harſh, if not convert it into vinegar.

Such is the theory reſpecting the fermentation of cider and perry, but there are various modes of reducing it into practice. Some planters ferment the liquor in hogſheads', which are generally filled entirely full, and

placed on trams in the open air. But the moſt approved method is to ſuffer it to ferment in large open veſſels, becauſe it is thereby not only kept in a cooler ſtate, from ſo large a ſurface being expoſed to the Atmoſphere, but the proceſs of the fermentation can alſo be aſcertained with greater nicety. In mild * weather the fermentation will take place in a day or two, and if the fruit be ripe, will be compleated in two or three days more; for the mellower the fruit the ſooner the liquor will "*drop fine.*" The fermentation is known by an ebullition, and alſo by a ſpume or thick *muſt* ariſing to the top of the veſſel, which is afterwards formed into a kind of cruſt. When the ebullition ceaſes, and the *muſt* or *ſpume* begins to fall, it is a certain indication that the liquor is fine. Then is the proper time therefore to *rack;* for if this critical period be neglected or deferred in the leaſt, the former impurity will return; and unleſs the fruit was perfectly mellow, a renewed fermentation will in all probability commence, and the liquor gradually aſſume a harſh and acid taſte.——

In

* In froſty weather a fortnight or even a month will ſometimes elapſe before the fermentation takes place.

In racking, it is uſual to fix the tap above the lees, that the liquor may be drawn off as bright as poſſible; and when particles of *muſt* begin to make their appearance, the tap is ſtopped.

The reſidue is then tunned into another caſk, which almoſt inſtantly brings on the vinous fermentaton. Here it may be obſerved, that the liquor after the firſt racking ſhould be put in an out-houſe, ſhed, or cool open cellar, whither there is a free admiſſion of air, but by no means in a ſmall confined place, leſt the ſurrounding atmoſphere ſhould be too warm. Neither ſhould the caſks be wholly filled as before, but one tenth part of ullage left, that the air may be admitted to a conſiderable ſurface of the liquor, and the acid fermentation thereby prevented.

Should a freſh fermentation come on after the firſt racking, which may be known by its hiſſing or fretting, the liquor ſhould be racked again immediately, and the rackings repeated as often as it ferments, becauſe the more the liquor ferments the rougher

it will be.* — Upon theſe occaſions, it is adviſeable to ſpread the liquor very thin in an open veſſel, for twelve or twenty four hours, till it becomes flat, when it ſeldom ferments afterwards. The filterings of the lees put into a hogſhead alſo very powerfully contribute to check fermentation; but whether this effect is produced by the coolneſs that the liquor has acquired, or that the fermenting principle has had an opportunity of flying off, is not exactly aſcertained. It is alſo cuſtomary to *ſtum*, i. e. fumigate the caſks with brimſtone to prevent fermentation, but that remedy is not often found to be equally ſucceſsful.

When the liquor is made from bad under-ripe fruit, the acid will be very apt to ſucceed the vinous fermentation. This is known by

* Cider merchants who buy their cider chiefly from the mill and manage it themſelves, employ perſons to ſit up every night amongſt their fermenting liquors to rack off as often as there is any appearance of fermentation. Theſe repeated rackings weaken the liquors, but rough cider is of little value to the merchants, and therefore the fretting muſt at any rate be ſtopped. Sometimes Cider merchants check the firſt fermentation, and in that caſe the cider is very luſcious, but flatulent and unhealthy. Perry is ſeldom racked more than once.

by a ſevere hiſſing or fretting, and alſo by a curling column of white ſpume or froth ariſing out of the bung-holes. When theſe ſymptoms appear, the liquor, however turbid, ſhould be racked immediately, and put in the open air: and ſhonld the fermentation continue obſtinate, no proceſs of art is equal to pouring the liquor into the cider-mill, and regrinding a dry cheeſe of *muſt* amongſt it. This has been frequently known to allay the fretting, and preſerve the liquor, after every other expedient had failed.

As ſoon as the fermenting or fretting of the cider has ceaſed, a flat ſtone is put over the bung-holes to keep the duſt out, and the caſks are covered with ſtraw to preſerve the liquor form freezing during the winter. About the beginning of April the cider is finally racked into cellars or vaults, the liquors being mixed according to the palate, and the caſks entirely filled. This done, ſome brown-paper is paſted over the bung-holes: for the caſks ſhould by no means be finally ſtopped up till the middle of May, when the trees have dropped their bloſſoms; becauſe it is very often found that ciders as well

well as * wines, renew their fermentation in the ſpring; not as is ſuppoſed, from any ſympathy between the parent tree and its produce, but moſt probably from the genial warmth of the ſeaſon.

At the time of *laying up* the liquor, the beſt ciderifts generally add a couple of quarts of French Brandy, which is a great preſervative, and enables the cider to bear moving. It is alſo cuſtomary with many planters to add ſomething for it *to feed* upon; ſuch as mutton-ſuet, parched beans, bread hard-baked, wheat, egg-ſhells, raw beef, &c. &c. but this practice, ſeldom prevails amongſt intelligent cider-makers. About the middle of May, as already mentioned, the caſks are finally ſtopped and ſealed with roſin. Cider thus *laid up* is fit for bottling at the end of two years; and if the acid fermentation has never taken place, it may be removed, even at the expiration of ſeven or eight years, with ſafety. Upon this occaſion however it ſhould not be racked, but removed

* "Wines work while vines are in their blow."

Hudibras.

removed in the hogſhead in which it has ſtood. *

The imperfections and diſeaſes incident to cider and perry, are want of *ſtrength*, want of *colour*, want of *brightneſs*, and *acidity*, all of which human ingenuity hath contrived in ſome meaſure to remedy. *Thin weak* ciders are corrected and preſerved from the acid fermentation by brandy. † *Colour* is given to ſuch liquors as want it by grinding a few Elderberries amongſt the fruit: but in ſuch a caſe burnt ſugar is the moſt approved remedy. The uſual way of applying it is this, "boil brown ſugar over the fire till it "acquire an agreeable bitter; then pour in "boiling water in the proportion of a gallon "to two pounds of ſugar, and ſtir until the "liquor become uniform. A pint of this preparation

* When cider is moved, it is of great conſequence that it be put in a Cellar of equal coolneſs with that from which it was taken. Should it become flat by being moved, two, three, or four pounds, of the fineſt brown ſugar-candy diſſolved in a ſmall quantity of Cider, and put into the caſk, will give it a briſkneſs and a flavour highly grateful.

† The colour of Cider may be known from the fleſh of the Apple, before grinding. For inſtance, cut an apple in two with a knife, and in five or ſix hours its fleſh will have aſſumed the exact colour of the liquor to be obtained from it.

"preparation will colour a hogſhead of "cider." Cider may be brought to a proper degree of *brightneſs* by "*bullocks blood*," or the blood of any other animal, in the proportion of a quart to a hogſhead of liquor. It is obſervable that the † blood carries down not only the feculency of the cider, but the colour alſo, making it clear and limpid as water; but that is not much to be regretted, ſince the colour can eaſily be reſtored by burnt ſugar. Iſinglaſs is alſo frequently uſed to *fine* fruit liquors; and ſhould they have a ſmall degree of *acidity*, crabs eyes, or chalk ground fine, have been found of conſiderable ſervice.

The quantity of cider made in a favourable year in this county cannot be aſcertained with any exactneſs, but it is ſuppoſed to be no leſs than twenty thouſand Hogſheads. Of theſe, about ſeven thouſand are ſold to Cider-merchants, who meet annually at Ledbury and Hereford to fix the prices with the

* See Marſhall on fruit liquor.

† Cider ſhould not remain long upon the blood, but be racked off as ſoon as it is fine, leſt it ſhould receive a taint which will injure it eſſentially.

the planters. The prices vary according to the plenty or ſcarcity of the year, and the qualities of the cider. *Stire*, which is reckoned the very beſt cider, ſometimes ſells as high as ſix or ſeven pounds a * hogſhead, and is ſeldom to be had under three guineas even in the moſt plentiful years. Other ſorts of cider are ſold from twenty to forty ſhillings a hogſhead from the mill, and if kept till racked, they are uſually one fourth higher. *Taunton-Squaſh* Perry is often ſold for five or ſix guineas a hogſhead, and is rarely to be bought under three guineas. *Huffcap* and *Oldfield* perries ſell for forty or fifty ſhillings, according to their qualities. Inferior cider is often ſold as low as eighteen ſhillings a hogſhead from the mill, and common perry for no more than twelve or fourteen ſhillings: ——— nay ſometimes in a very plentiful year, a load, (three hogſheads) is ſold for a guinea, the carriage included. Here it is ſufficiently obvious that the planter is ſcarcely paid for the drudgery of making it alone: and indeed

O ſome

* A hundred and ten or fifteen Gallons wine meaſure, is a hogſhead from the mill; but if the cider has been racked, the planters will allow a hundred and five gallons only.

ſome people have gone ſo far as to maintain, that the fruit liquors of this diſtrict are upon the whole, rather injurious than beneficial to the farmers and county at large. In confirmation of this opinion it is aſſerted that when they take into the account the trouble of grafting, planting and defending the trees while young, and the injury which the lands ſuſtain afterwards from their drip and ſhade — when they eſtimate the expence of the mill and its apparatus, the cellar room and caſks — when they conſider the great uncertainty of a * *hit* — and what is worſe than all, the pernicious habit of exceſſive drinking, which is thereby occaſioned and diffuſed throughout the county, to the no ſmall detriment of the planter, as well as the introduction of idleneſs and debauchery amongſt the common people; when theſe particulars are duly weighed and conſidered, they think themſelves warranted in concluding that it would be for the benefit of the diſtrict if every apple and pear tree were totally eradicated and deſtroyed. Theſe ſevere charges however are chiefly founded upon

* A good hit does not uſually happen more than once in three or four years.

upon the negligence and bad management of the planter; for where trees are ſet at a proper diſtance, and regularly pruned and trimmed, the injury of the drip and ſhade is but trifling. 'Tis true, the expence of mills and caſks amounts to a conſiderable ſum: but if all the common and inferior ſorts of fruit trees were cut down, and the prime fruits alone propagated, this expence would be amply reimburſed by the increaſed price of liquors, and the farmer of courſe greatly enriched. It may be obſerved further that the evil of drunkenneſs, is not juſtly imputable to the liquor, but to the imprudence and irreſolute conduct of thoſe who in their allowance to their work-people are at all times too liberal, and in plentiful years ſuffer it to be waſted with a thoughtleſs and criminal prodigality. This laviſh conſumption however happens only when there are no other means of diſpoſing of it: and when the two projected canals ſhall be compleated, this evil will if not totally yet in a great meaſure, be remedied; becauſe they will occaſion not only a greater demand for theſe liquors, but alſo afford better means of diſpoſing of them by

a cheap and eaſy conveyance into diſtant countries.

The CUSTOMS, manners, and diverſions are much the ſame in this county, as in other parts of the kingdom. Yet the cuſtom of * Waſſailing, as it is different from any thing practiſed elſewhere I ſhall take the liberty to relate. On the feaſt of the Epiphany, ſoon after midnight, the bailiff of each farm, with all the other ſervants, proceeds to a wheat field, generally the moſt conſpicuous upon the eſtate; where thirteen fires are lighted up, one of which is much larger than the reſt. Theſe fires blazing on every hill, and made ſtill more viſible by the darkneſs of the night, have a peculiarly ſtriking effect upon a ſtranger, eſpecially when he is witneſs to the loud acclamations which inceſſantly reverberate throughout the diſtrict until ſunriſe. It is hardly neceſſary to mention that theſe rites are never performed without very plentiful libations of beer and cider. At day break the ſcene cloſes until the evening, when

* Waſſail or Waſſel, from the Saxon WAS-HEAL, that is, health be to you.

when the maid-ſervants introduce a large plumb-cake, which is taken to the beaſt-houſe (a hole being bored through the middle of it) and put upon one of the horns of the principal ox. The bailiff then receiving a cup of beer, repeats the following barbarous lines.

" Here's to thee * Benbow and to thy white horn,
" And God ſend my maſter a good crop of corn:
" Both wheat, rye and barley, and all ſorts of grain,
" And this time twelve-months, I'll drink to thee again.
" Do thou eat thy oats, and I'll drink my beer,
" And God ſend us all a happy new year."

The bailiff having drank this health, the other ſervants drink to the other oxen in the ſame words, only varying their names.

This done the plow-boy goads the principal ox, and endeavours by every means to make him toſs the cake off his horn. If the

* Name of the principal Ox.

the ox throws it before him it belongs to the bailiff, if behind, to the plow-boy; but if it ſtill remains on his horn, it is the property of the maid ſervants. This ceremony being finiſhed the door of the beaſt-houſe is faſtened, and every ſpectator obliged to ſing before he is ſuffered to depart. Upon quitting the beaſt-houſe, which muſt be done without the aſſiſtance of a candle, the ingenuity of the girls exerts itſelf in deviſing how to put tricks upon the company; ſuch as ſetting pails of water to tumble into, together with many other feats of equal pleaſantry. The evening is concluded with general feſtivity and mirth.

The CLIMATE of Herefordſhire does not perhaps vary much from that of the ſurrounding counties; except that the vicinity of the welſh mountains gives a purity to the air which renders it highly ſalubrious. "Many "aged folks," ſays Fuller "which in other "counties are properties of the chimneys, "or confined to their beds, are here found "active in the fields." It is alſo upon record that when King James I. made a progreſs through this county, Serjeant Hoſkyns

Hoſkyns to prove to him the longevity of its inhabitants, procured five men and five women to dance the *Morrice* in his preſence, whoſe ages together made a thouſand years.

A recent and no leſs ſurprizing inſtance of activity was manifeſted, in the beginning of the year 1789, by one *Thomas Savager* late of Kingſland in this county, labourer. This man, who was at that time about fifty years of age, five feet four inches high, and lame, from one leg being conſiderably ſhorter than the other, undertook for a wager of twenty guineas to walk four hundred and four miles, (the ſame number that the celebrated pedeſtrian *Powell* accompliſhed,) in ſix days. The line agreed upon for the diſplay of his agility was on the turnpike road from Hereford to Ludlow, and back again from Ludlow to Hereford. Owing to the unevenneſs and badneſs of the road in general, and eſpecially to the lofty hill of *Dinmore* which he was obliged to paſs at leaſt three times a day; the odds at ſtarting were a guinea to a ſhilling againſt him, and were ſtill further increaſed on the third day by a fall of ſnow, which made the road exceedingly

exceedingly ſlippery and dirty. He continued his career however with infinite ſpirit, and won his wager five hours within the time allowed. It appeared afterwards by adding together the ſuperfluous ground he had walked to his lodgings at Hereford, Ludlow, and elſewhere contiguous to the road, that inſtead of four hundred and four, he had actually travelled no leſs than four hundred and twenty nine miles.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER II.

CONTENTS.

THE SILURES THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF HEREFORDSHIRE.—THEIR VARIOUS CONTESTS WITH THE ROMANS.—AULUS PLAUTIUS DRIVES THEM FROM THEIR POSTS.—OSTORIUS SCAPULA AND CARACTACUS ENGAGE.—CARACTACUS' ARRIVAL, AND BEHAVIOUR AT ROME.—THE SILURES FINALLY SUBDUED IN THE REIGN OF VESPASIAN.

THE firſt inhabitants of this county, whereof mention is made in hiſtory, were the *Silures*. Beſides Herefordſhire, they had poſſeſſion alſo of the counties of Radnor, Brecknock, Monmouth and Glamorgan. * Many writers imagine that they came originally from Spain: others, from Gaul or Germany. Leaving this matter to be decided by the antiquaries, I will ſtep forward to

 that

* The counties of Hereford, Radnor, Brecknock, Monmouth, and Glamorgan, were ſometimes, by the Romans, called SILURIA, and ſometimes BRITANNIA SECUNDA.

that Æra, when their conteſts with the Roman legions, made them more univerſally known.

The invaſion of Julius Cæſar not extending to the country of the Silures, that people preſerved their liberties a conſiderable time afterwards, being equally defended by the remoteneſs of their ſituation and the valour of their arms. Accordingly we find, that whenever any attempt was made to reduce them by the ſucceeding emperors, they defended their liberties with aſtoniſhing intrepidity; by which means they continued to be free, long after the ſurrounding provinces had ſubmitted to ſlavery.

At length, the emperor Claudius, deſirous of military fame, ſent over Aulus Plautius, a general of conſular dignity, with a ſtrict charge to reduce the Silures, and if poſſible to extirpate their very name from the earth. Having landed his forces, he led them towards the country of the Silures, where Caractacus the Britiſh general waited his arrival. Plautius immediately diſpoſed his army for an engagement, which Caractacus declined,

declined, thinking it better to harraſs and diſtreſs the Romans in their marches, than truſt to the hazard of a battle, in which he could have little chance to come off victorious, from the great diſproportion of their forces. In this poſition did the two armies continue for a conſiderable time; the Romans preſſing on to give battle, which the Britons had ſufficient addreſs to avoid, at the ſame time that they cut off the enemy's foraging parties, and ſet their utmoſt valour at defiance.

Yet diſſention eaſily effected, what the Roman legions did not ſeem able to accompliſh. Whether Plautius found means to bribe ſome of the Britiſh leaders is uncertain: but the conduct of a few, who on a ſudden laid down their arms and ſurrendered themſelves priſoners, leaves room for ſuch a ſuſpicion. The Silures thus weakened and divided, were no longer able to ſtand againſt the collected force of the Roman veterans. Caractacus was therefore obliged to quit his poſts, and retire to the mountainous parts of Wales.

Claudius himſelf about this time, made his appearance in Britain, and having planted ſeveral legions of ſoldiers, to ſuppreſs any future commotions, returned to Rome accompanied by his general, in order to ſhare the honours of a triumph. As they paſſed thro' the provinces on the Continent, Claudius ordered himſelf to be proclaimed every where *Imperator*, or *Victorious general.* No ſooner had he arrived at Rome, than he was hailed as the conqueror of an Iſland, which hitherto, had never been totally ſubdued. The ſirname of *Britannicus* was given both to himſelf and Son, and a moſt magnificent triumph was decreed him. Plautius alſo had his due ſhare in all theſe honours.

But altho' the greateſt part of Britain, had been ſubdued long before, and had now again ſubmitted to Plautius, the Silures were not ſo eaſily awed into ſervitude. Tho' deſerted by all the ſurrounding provinces, and by no means equal to the enemy in numbers, they were yet reſolved to make one more effort for their expiring liberties. Having therefore ſpent ſome time in collecting and diſciplining his forces, Caractacus again appeared

appeared in the field of battle. He ſoon ſlaughtered, or put to flight, thoſe legions which the emperor had poſted as a garriſon: ſo that fortune ſeemed now to have made amends for the bad ſucceſs of every former effort.

This being known at Rome, Publius Oſtorius Scapula, was inveſted with the dignity of Proprætor, and ſent over into Britain. The theatre on which theſe two celebrated generals firſt came within ſight of each other, is ſaid to have been very near the city of Hereford: Oſtorius throwing up his encampment upon Dineder-hill, (alias Oyſter-hill, ſo called from Oſtorius) and Caractacus upon the ſummit of Credon-hill. The Silures being much inferior in numbers to the Romans, Caractacus did not think fit to hazard an engagement in this place, but made a retreat into the country of the Ordovices. Theſe extended themſelves over the counties of Merioneth, Caernarvon, Denby, Flint, Montgomery, and part of Salop. The ſpot which he choſe for the ſcene of action, is by ſome thought to be ſituated upon the borders of Shropſhire, about three miles from

from Bucknell, and four from Brampton-Brian, and is known by the name of the *Gyre* or * *Caer ditches.* Others however with ſome appearance of probability, place it about ſeven or eight miles diſtant, adjoining the conflux of the rivers Clun † and Teme, in the ſame county.

This engagement between the Romans and Silures being related by Tacitus, I ſhall make no apology for tranſcribing the particulars of it.

"Caractacus" ſays that hiſtorian, "choſe a place every way incommodious to the Roman

* CAER in welſh ſignifies STRONG or POWERFUL. Theſe fortifications are even now exceedingly ſtrong and in great perfection, the mounds being thrown up very high. About half a mile below the ſummit of the hill, in the road to Knighton, is a Roman camp alſo, but not ſo perfect as the Britiſh.

† CLUN, in welſh, GELYN ſignifies an Enemy. Tacitus in deſcribing the place ſays, a river flowed at the foot of the mountain dangerous to be forded. His words are "ſuperfluebat amnis vado incerto." The water that flows by CAER DITCHES however is a mere rivulet; ſo that unleſs we ſuppoſe the hiſtorian to have exaggerated the matter greatly, we muſt infer that Caractacus was not defeated at the Caer ditches, but ſomewhere near the conflux of the Clun and Teme.

Roman army, every way favourable to his own. The place where he encamped was the ridge of a mountain exceedingly ſteep; and where its ſides were approachable, he raiſed large ſtones by way of a wall or rampart. At the foot of the mountain flowed a river dangerous to be forded, and a hoſt of men guarded his entrenchments. Having thus diſpoſed matters, he flew from quarter to quarter, exhorting and animating his followers, with repreſentations proper to diſſipate fear, kindle their hopes, and rouſe in them all the fierceſt incitements to war. He told them that from this battle, and this day, they muſt date their liberties compleatly reſcued, or their ſervitude eternally eſtabliſhed. He called upon thoſe of their anceſtors, who had withſtood Cæſar the Dictator, men by whoſe valour they yet lived free from tribute and Roman axes, yet preſerved free from proſtitution, the perſons of their wives and children."

"As he thus harangued, he was anſwered by the united acclamation of his army: and every one bound himſelf by an oath moſt ſacred, never to yield to arms, nor wounds, nor

nor aught ſave death. —— Oſtorius having animated the Romans in his turn, and carefully viewed in what part the rampart might be moſt ſucceſsfully forced, led his veterans to the attack. The Romans gained the oppoſite ſide of the river amidſt ſhowers of darts, and whilſt they approached the bulwark, ſuffered a dreadful carnage. But forming themſelves into the military * ſhell, they ſoon advanced near enough to fight hand to hand; upon which the fate of the day was changed. After an obſtinate reſiſtance the Silures gave way, and gained the ſummit of the mountain, where having few weapons but darts, and being covered with no armour, they were ſurrounded and ſlaughtered by the ſwords, javelins and pikes of the Roman legions. The victory was deciſive.

* This ſhell, called in latin, Teſtudo, was very much uſed by the Romans in ſtorming fortreſſes &c. It was called Teſtudo from the reſemblance it bore to a ſhell. The way in which they ſtormed the walls of any place was as follows. The firſt rank of men locking their targets or ſhields ſtood upright. The next bowed their bodies a little downwards. The third and fourth did the like, ſo that the laſt rank kneeled upon the ground. One Teſtudo could be erected upon another, to the height of eighteen or twenty feet, if the place required it. They frequently did this at the celebration of their games to an aſtoniſhing height, and with urpriſing dexterity. Tacitus calls this "Iteratam teſtudinem."

deciſive. The wife and daughter of Caractacus were taken priſoners, and his brothers ſurrendered to mercy. Caractacus himſelf had recourſe to the faith and protection of *Cartiſmandua*, queen of the Brigantes; but as almoſt all things conſpire together againſt the unfortunate, was by her delivered in chains to the conquerors, in the ninth year after the commencement of the war."

The Romans, who were fond of pomp and exaggeration to a very great degree, did not let ſlip an opportunity of magnifying this victory in the moſt exalted ſtrains. In the publick ſtreets of Rome, nothing could exceed the joy and acclamations of the multitude; and even the Senate-houſe reſounded with the praiſe of the * conqueſt. By this means the glory of Caractacus was alſo much encreaſed: his name being held in ſo much renown even at Rome, that every one was anxious to ſee the man, who had for ſo many years bid defiance to the Roman powers.

 Accordingly

* The ſenate greatly extolled this victory: eſteeming it no leſs glorious, than when P. Scipio ſhewed in triumph, Siphax, king of the Numidians, or L. Paulus, Perſes, king of the Macedonians.

Accordingly when he came within ſight of the city, the people were all aſſembled as to ſee ſomething great and wonderful, and the emperor's guards were drawn up, to aſſiſt at, and grace the proceſſion.

Firſt proceeded the ſervants and followers of the Britiſh king, with the military harneſs, golden chains, and ſpoils taken by him in his wars with the neighbouring provinces. Next his brethren, wife and daughters, and laſt of all himſelf expoſed to publick view. All but he were dejected, and deſcended thro' fear to ſupplications unworthy of their rank. Caractacus, without betraying a ſuppliant look, or uttering a word that implored mercy, as ſoon as he was placed before the imperial tribunal, ſpoke thus.

" If to the height of my rank and fortune,
" I had joined an equal degree of modera-
" tion in my proſperity, I ſhould have ar-
" rived in the city under another character:
" that of a friend, and not of a captive.
" Nor would you then have diſdained to
" receive a prince born of illuſtrious anceſtors,

" and

"and governing ſo many provinces into "terms of alliance. But different is my "preſent lot, which throws upon you as "eminent renown, as upon me diſgrace and "abaſement. I was lately maſter of men, "arms, horſes, and opulence; yet where "is the wonder, if againſt my inclination I "have been deprived of them. If you Ro-"mans aim at extending your dominion "over all mankind, it does not thence fol-"low, that all men will embrace voluntary "ſervitude from Rome. Had I immediately "ſubmitted to captivity, neither had my "fall nor your glory been thus ſignal: and "even now, if I am to ſuffer death, the "fame of my ſtory and your conqueſt will "die with my puniſhment; but if you pre-"ſerve my life, I ſhall be an everlaſting "example of your clemency."

Upon this, Claudius pardoned him, his wife and brethren: their chains were immediately ſtruck off, and they ſaluted the emperor, together with the empreſs Agrippina, who was ſeated on a throne, not far from him.

But tho' great ſucceſs had hitherto attended the Roman arms, the Silures were by no means ſubdued. Indeed they ſeemed more deſperate from their loſs of Caractacus. Nor did their uſual valour and addreſs forſake them in the field of battle. Oſtorius ſuffered ſoon afterwards, in ſeveral ſkirmiſhes. A Marſhall and eight centurions were ſlain, and many other eminent advantages gained by the Britons. At laſt Oſtorius grieved at the reverſe of his former good fortune, and haraſſed by the unimpaired vigilance and bravery of the enemy, died as is ſaid, of a broken heart.

The next Lieutenant was Aulus Didius. Before his arrival in Britain, Manlius Valens had an engagement with the Silures, in which one legion of the Roman army was entirely cut off.

The conteſt between the Romans and Silures, continued afterwards with varied ſucceſs, during the lieutenancies of Verianus, Scutonius Paulinus, Petronus Turpilianus, Trebellius Maximus, Vettius Bolanus, and Petilius Cerealis. At laſt Julius Frontinus in

in the reign of Veſpaſian, entirely conquered and ſubdued them.

After ſuch a waſte of men and money in ſubduing the Silures, we may imagine the Romans would not be very kind and indulgent maſters. Nay it is probable that the inhabitants of theſe parts, more than ſhared in the general wretchedneſs of the kingdom. As a proof of this, we find them ever foremoſt in endeavouring to throw off the yoke, and inviting others to the like reſiſtance. 'Tis true, they learned from their maſters, commerce and a civilization of manners; but if ſevere exactions, and an humiliating ſervitude, were the terms of ſuch boaſted advantages, it is no wonder, that ſouls full of freedom, and glowing with ideas of native liberty, ſhould ſpurn at ſo infamous an exchange.

What particular degree of ſucceſs or diſgrace attended them in thoſe ſtruggles, is difficult at this time to be aſcertained; for mixing with the ſurrounding provinces ſoon after, they ceaſed to be marked any longer by that peculiarity of character, by which they had hitherto been ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER III.

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WE have lately seen the Romans subduing and giving laws to a distant kingdom, with all their wonted valour and dignity of character. The time, however, was now at hand, when they themselves were to experience that humiliation, which they had been so uniform in exacting from others. Being obliged to recal their legions from Britain to defend their own Capital, this Island was restored to its ancient priviledges and freedom. But tho' it enjoyed

the

the name of liberty, the ſubſtantial requiſites of preſerving it, namely conduct and courage were loſt.

The Romans were in a particular manner celebrated for reconciling thoſe nations even to the moſt abject ſervitude, which they had once ſubdued by arms. As a means to effect this in Britain, they deprived its inhabitants of weapons, promoted amongſt them a ſpirit of induſtry and commerce, and reſerved for themſelves the defence of the Iſland. As ſoon therefore as the Romans were withdrawn, the Britons became unable to defend themſelves. The Picts and Scots taking advantage of this helpleſs condition, made frequent invaſions upon their dominions, and purſued their ravages with increaſed barbarity. At laſt, harraſſed with theſe repeated incurſions, we find that very people, which had ſo bravely held out againſt the Roman valour, begging in the moſt humiliating ſtrains, to exchange freedom once more for protected ſervitude. "The * barbarians," ſay they in their petition, "drive

* See Gildas and Bede lib. 1. Chap. 13.

" drive us to the ſea, the ſea again back to the barbarians: thus bandied between two deaths, we either periſh by the ſword or by water."

What followed after this, is known to every one; viz, that Vortigern, to drive out that ſwarm of invaders which iſſued from the north, invited over Hengiſt and Horſa with an army of Saxons from Germany. Theſe in a few years turned their arms againſt their employers, and ſeized upon that kingdom which they came to protect. The original inhabitants haraſſed and driven from their homes by the rapacity of theſe conquerors retired into Wales and Cornwall; whilſt many of them " deſerting their native " country took ſhelter in the province of " Armorica in France, where being charitably " received by a people of the ſame language " and manners, they ſettled in great num- " bers, and gave the country the name of " Brittany. *"

The unlettered ſtate of Britain about this time,

* See Hume vol. 1ſt. p. 21.

time, makes it very difficult to give any regular hiſtory of theſe parts, during the firſt years of the Saxon Heptarchy. Moſt of the intelligence which we have gained, is, that the Saxons, tho' they eaſily expelled the inhabitants of the other parts of England, found it convenient to ſuſpend for a time the conqueſt of Herefordſhire. Accordingly we find that is was not at firſt included in the ſeven kingdoms; but continued for a conſiderable time to be poſſeſſed by its original inhabitants. A diſtrict, however, naturally ſo fertile and abundant, afforded a ſtrong temptation to the rapacity of the Saxon-chieftains; and as pretences for waging war are ſeldom wanting where there is power ſufficient to enſure a conqueſt, it was not long before one of the kings of *Mercia* led an army to take poſſeſſion of the moſt fertile of thoſe provinces which lie on the weſt ſide of the Severn.

The Britons, we may ſuppoſe, could not behold themſelves deſpoiled of the richeſt of their already diminiſhed territories, with tame ſubmiſſion. Accordingly we find, that having collected all their forces, they

made a vigorous and brave reſiſtance. Various were the conteſts, and numerous the feats of chivalry, between theſe contending powers, one of which was ſpurred on by avarice, rapacity, and a thirſt for glory; and the other incited by a ſenſe of paſt injuries, and preſent injuſtice; by all that was valuable and dear to them as the ancient and legal proprietors of the ſoil. But the cauſe of juſtice was overpowered by force; whereby the county of Hereford, and ſome other neighbouring diſtricts, were added to the Mercian dominions.

A ſhort time after, Herefordſhire was erected into a ſeparate and independent kingdom: for ETHELRED having aſcended the throne of Mercia in 675, gave this county to MEROWALD his brother, who dying without heirs, left it to his younger brother MERCELM: but he alſo dying without iſſue, it was united again to Mercia.

But though the Britons or Welſh had lately been driven out of the richeſt of their dominions weſtward of the Severn, they did not quietly or finally reſign their pre-

tenſions

ſenſions to them. That hardy and valiant race of people, though over-powered by numbers, were not intimidated. Whenever therefore the Saxon nations were at variance with each other, which was frequently the caſe, the Britons ever vigilant to ſeize all advantages, poured down their forces from the mountains with impetuous fury, and took poſſeſſion of their former habitations.

In the year 757, OFFA ſucceeded to the throne of Mercia. Being elected *Chief* or *Monarch* * by the ſeven ſtates, he carried his arms into the Kingdoms of *Kent*, *Weſſex* and *Northumbria*, aſpiring at no leſs than ſovereign authority over all the other kings. Whilſt he was thus employed in ſubduing the Saxon nations, the Britons made a ſpirited invaſion upon the Mercian territories, and penetrated beyond the Severn. This unexpected war, in which the Britons, at firſt, were highly ſucceſsful, induced Offa to make peace with the Anglo-ſaxons, in order to turn the whole force of his arms

 againſt

* Tho' each of the ſeven Anglo-ſaxon kingdoms was ſovereign and independent, yet a General in chief, or Monarch was elected, to lead their armies againſt the common enemy.

againſt the Britons. Having led forth his army, he quickly reduced them to ſuch extremity that they were obliged to abandon not only their late conqueſts in Mercia, but likewiſe a conſiderable portion of their own country weſtward of the Severn, of which he took poſſeſſion, and peopled it with engliſh colonies.

After this, Offa removed his court to SOUTH-TOWN, now SUTTON, about three miles from Hereford, where he erected a magnificent palace. We are told, that he was induced to fix his reſidence here, that he might more expeditiouſly repel thoſe invaſions, which the Britons were generally making for the recovery of their loſt dominions. To prevent their incurſions ſtill more effectually, he threw up a rampart defended by a large ditch, by which his conqueſts were ſeparated from the territories of the welſh. This dike, called in welſh, CLAWDH OFFA, i. e. Offa's dike, ſeems to have been the boundary between the Engliſh and Welſh for a conſiderable time afterwards: for *John* of *Saliſbury* in his *Policration* informs us, "Harold ordained a law that what

"what welſh-men ſoever ſholde be founde "with weapons on this ſide Offa's dike, "ſholde have their righte hands cut off "by the king's officers." It began at the *Severn* a little below *Chepſtow* in Monmouthſhire, and extended to the mouth of the river *Dee* which parts Wales from Cheſhire. There are even now ſome veſtiges of it to be ſeen at the following places: viz, "on Brachy-hill, and near Rhyd or Helig "and Lanterden in Herefordſhire: near "Knighton, from which place it continued "northwards over a part of Shropſhire into "Montgomeryſhire, and went over the long "mountain of Reven-Digoth to Harden "Caſtle. Thence it croſſed the Severn and "Lhan-Drinio common, from whence it "paſſed the Vynrwy again into Shropſhire, "not far from Oſwalſtry. In Denbighſhire "it is viſible along the road between Rhywabon and Wrexam, and having continued "through Flintſhire, ended a little below "Holywell, a place formerly the ſite of the "caſtle of Baſingwork. *"

Offa,

* See Camden p. 698.

Offa, who filled the throne of Mercia thirty nine years, except that the government was ſometimes adminiſtred by his ſon *Egfridus*, was a monarch whoſe military talents and ſplendid endowments placed him very high in the annals of that æra. "He "was become ſo conſiderable in the Hep- "tarchy that the emperor Charlemagne en- "tered into an alliance and friendſhip with "him, a circumſtance which did honour to "Offa, as diſtant princes at that time had "uſually little communication with each other. "The Emperor being a great lover of learning "and learned men, in an age very barren "of that ornament, Offa, at his deſire ſent "him over ALCUIN, a clergyman much "celebrated for his knowledge, who received "great honours from Charlemagne, and even "became his preceptor in the ſciences. *" But tho' the actions of Offa were great and conſpicuous, † the ſplendor of them was ſullied

* See Hume's Hiſt. of England vol. 1ſt. p. 50.

† The reign of Offa is memorable upon ſeveral accounts: his Dike: the murder of Ethelbert, and building of the Cathedral Church of Hereford: the eſtabliſhment of Peter's pence at Rome: the union of Eaſt-Anglia with Mercia: the erecting of Lichfield into an Arch-biſhoprick: a body of laws publiſhed under the title of

ſullied, and their luſtre was tarniſhed by the cruel murder of ETHELBERT king of the EAST-ANGLES. Hiſtorians have recorded the following particulars of that tranſaction.

ETHELBERT ſon of ETHELRED and LEOFFRUN his queen, ſucceeded his father in the kingdom of the Eaſt-Angles. Nature, as if ſhe intended to make royalty more admired, had laviſhed upon him her choiceſt favours. In his ſtature he was conſiderably above the middle ſize, and his form modelled according to the rules of the moſt exact ſymmetry and elegance. His eye was animated and piercing, yet mild and conciliating; and his whole countenance open, manly and expreſſive. With theſe and other advantages, his carriage was rendered peculiarly dignified and majeſtick: yet at the ſame time was it tempered with the moſt gracious affability, politeneſs, and condeſcenſion. Nor was he equalled by any one in

of MERCENS LEAGA i. e. laws of the Mercians, moſt of which were inſerted amongſt king Alfred'r laws: and laſtly the eſtabliſhment of the right of tithes by the common law throughout the Mercian dominions, which right was ſoon afterwards extended over the whole kingdom, in the reign of Ethelwolf, about the year 853.

in thoſe talents of mind, which are ſo juſtly intitled to reſpect. He experienced a facility in attaining the moſt difficult and abſtruſe ſciences: his comprehenſion darting as it were, into every compartment of knowledge with the greateſt rapidity. Beſides theſe endowments of perſon and mind, he was remarkably diſtinguiſhed for the fineſt feelings of humanity. Genuine diſtreſs and real miſery always found an advocate in his boſom. In ſhort, he was endowed in a very eminent degree, with every virtue as well as accompliſhment, which is agreed to conſtitute perfection.

Peace and happineſs being diffuſed by his good government throughout the kingdom of the Eaſt-angles, he began to turn his thoughts towards the endearments of ſocial and domeſtick felicity. About this time being informed by report, of the ſingular beauty and accompliſhments of * ALTHRIDA, daughter of Offa, king of Mercia; he was † deſirous of

* Althrida was diſtantly allied by blood to Ethelbert. See Leland.

† Different authors relate this differently. Holinſhed ſays, he was induced to marry by the advice of his council: and in another place,

of being united to a princeſs, whoſe reputation had ſo highly merited his attention. With this view he made * a viſit to the

S Mercian

place, that Offa allured him to Sutton under a promiſe of giving him his daughter in marriage, in order to kill him, and get poſſeſſion of his kingdom. His character of Offa, is as follows. "After that Offa had ſlayne Bernred, the uſurper of the kingdom of Mercia, the ſame Offa took upon him the government of that kingdom. 758. A man of ſuch ſtowtneſſe of ſtomacke, that he thought he ſhould be able to bring to paſs, all things whatſoever he conceyved in his mind. He reigned 39 years. His doings were great and marveylous, and ſuch as ſometimes his virtues ſurpaſſed hys vices, and ſometyme again his vices ſeemed to overmatch his virtues.

The Kentiſhmen he overcame in a great battayle at Otteford, and the Northumbers alſo were by hym vanquiſhed, and in battaile put to flight. With Kenvulfe king of Weſt Saxons he fought in open battaile, and obteyned a noble victorie, with ſmall loſs of hys people, althoughe the ſame Kenvulf was a right valyaunt prince, and a good captaine. Again, perceyving that to proceede wyth craft ſhoulde ſooner advaunce his purpoſe than to uſe open force agaynſt Ethelbert king of Eaſt Angles; under fayre promiſes to give vnto him hys daughter in marryage, hee allured him to come into Mercia, and receyving him into hys palayce, cauſed his head to be ſtryken off, and after by wrongfull meanes invaded his kingdom, and got it into hys poſſeſſion." The murder of Ethelbert is, however, generally attribnted to the inſtigation of his queen Quindreda, which name in Saxon, ſignifies a "queen to be dreaded:" ſhe having cauſed her brother Kenelme to be put to death before. See Weever's Mon. Appendix.

* Many ſtraunge things that happened to hym in taking upon hym this journey, putte hym in great doubte of that whiche ſholde followe. He was no ſooner mounted on hys horſe, but that (as ſeemed to hym) the earth ſhooke under hym. Again, as he was

in

Mercian court kept at SUTTON, where he was received and entertained with every mark of reſpect due to his rank. To ſupport the dignity of his character, and probably not without ſome view of ſecuring more effectually the heart of the young Princeſs, he took with him a very numerous and ſplendid retinue of nobles. The expectations he had formed of Althrida were not diſappointed. Her beauty ſoon excited his love, which was every day encreaſed by the charms of her converſation, and the politeneſs of her manners. Nor was Ethelbert leſs ſucceſsful in the progreſs he made in the affections of the Princeſs. In ſhort, they loved each other with all the tenderneſs of the moſt ſincere paſſion. On this account, his ſtay at Sutton was prolonged beyond the uſual term of ſuch viſits: part of which time he amuſed himſelf in hunting and other exerciſes, with the Mercian nobles.

Whilſt matters were in this poſition, and the

in his journey about the mydde time of the daye, ſuch a dark myſte compaſſed hym on eche ſide, that he coulde not ſee nor diſcerne for a certaine time any thing about him at all. Laſtly, as hee lay one night a ſleepe, he thought he ſawe in a dreame the roofe of his owne palayce fall down to the ground. See Holinſhed.

the day nearly approaching when they were to be joined together: * Quindreda, the mother of Althrida, assumed the diabolical purpose of planning the young king's destruction. Historians attribute the cause of this conspiracy against Ethelbert's life, to an ungovernable desire she had conceived, of adding the kingdom of the East-angles to the dominions that Offa already possessed.

Whatever might be the real motive, she waited upon Offa, and informed him, that tho' their daughter's lover might appear sincere in his attachment, yet in fact, his real intention was treacherous and destructive to the crown and kingdom of Offa: his proposal of marrying Althrida, being nothing more than a scheme of policy, to ingratiate himself more certainly into the affections of the Mercian subjects, in order to deprive

 him

* King Offa right honourably receyved hym: but his wyfe named Quindreda, a wyfe woman, but there wyth wicked, conceyved a malicious device in hir heart, and streyghtways goeth about to perfwade hir husbande to putte it in execution, which was to murther king Ethelbert, and after to take into hys handes hys kingdome. — Offa at the firste was offended with hys wyfe for thys motion, but in the ende through the importunate requeft of the woman, he confented to hir minde." Holinfhed. — See alfo Leland,

him of his kingdom. Offa, tho' at firſt he refuſed to perpetrate the murder, yet liſtened to this intelligence with all the avidity of ungenerous ſuſpicion; and Quindreda found no difficulty to diſſeminate in her huſband's breaſt, thoſe ſeeds of rancour and animoſity, which had ſo effectually diſturbed her own.

As a proof of what ſhe had told him, ſhe ſuggeſted, that unleſs the moſt unwarrantable ambition actuated the breaſt of Ethelbert, what reaſon could he have to attach himſelf ſo warmly as he ſeemed to do, to the Mercian nobles? What occaſion could he have for all thoſe attendants, which were rather an army, than a cavalcade, neceſſary for the ſupport of his dignity? In ſhort, ſhe urged to him likewiſe the great length of his abode at their court, which ſhe interpreted to be ſolely for the purpoſe of gaining over the Mercian chieftains to his intereſt; by which means he might the more eaſily ſucceed in his views, and ſtrip them of their dominions. That, if as he pretended, he ſhould proceed ſo far as actually to marry their daughter, yet even that would be a confirmation of his views ſufficient to deter them

them from acceding to the nuptials; ſince he might then claim a kind of right to thoſe kingdoms, which otherwiſe he could only poſſeſs by force.

By theſe, and ſuch like inſinuations, Quindreda gained over Offa effectually to her wiſhes, and it was determined without much time taken up in deliberation, that Ethelbert ſhould atone for his ſuppoſed perfidiouſneſs by his death. Several methods of diſpatching him were thought of, and large offers made amongſt Offa's domeſticks; but every one refuſed to be the executioner of a prince, whoſe conduct had rendered him ſo univerſally beloved. At laſt they had recourſe to one of the domeſticks of Ethelbert, whoſe name was Gwymbert or Wynnebert. This miſcreant had been raiſed by the young king's father from the loweſt ſtate of indigence, and lately promoted by Ethelbert himſelf, to a conſiderable office in his houſehold: yet diſgraceful as it is to human nature to record, theſe obligations were not ſufficient to reſtrain him from imbruing his hands in the blood of his benefactor and his Prince. An early hour in the morning

morning was fixed upon for this black deed: when the aſſaſſin having firſt awakened the Prince, upon a pretence that Offa wanted him upon ſome urgent buſineſs, planted himſelf in a paſſage which led from his apartments. Availing himſelf of a receſs in the ſame place, he waited for the coming of Ethelbert, and as he was paſſing by, plunged a dagger deep into his breaſt. The wound being inſtantly mortal, he dropped down immediately, fortunate only in not perceiving the hand by which he fell.

No ſooner was this murder perpetrated, than Offa ſent an army to take poſſeſſion of the Eaſt-anglian dominions. The acquiſition of a Kingdom, however, could but ill compenſate for the accumulation of his guilt. He ſoon began to reflect upon the murder he had been the means of committing, with all the horror conſequent upon ſuch a crime. His queen was condemned in the bittereſt terms, as the abettor, and ſole cauſe of an action, which the more he reflected on, the more he deteſted. Yet to ſcreen himſelf from publick odium, he endeavoured to conceal the circumſtances that attended his death

death, as much as poſſible; and gave orders for his corps to be interred in a private manner at Marden church, on the banks of the Lugg, about a mile from his palace. But every precaution towards concealment was ineffectual, tending only to confirm ſuſpicion, and bring the fact more ſpeedily to light. Accordingly, in a ſhort time he was publickly known to be the inſtigator of the murder. With a view to make ſome atonement for what he had done, he gave orders to one * Brickfridus, a Mercian nobleman, to remove the corps, and inter it near the monaſtery at Hereford. This command was executed with much ſolemnity, and a very ſplendid monument was erected there, to the memory of the murdered prince. His amiable and exemplary conduct, together with the general commiſeration for a fate ſo untimely and undeſerved, gained him a great many honours after his death. Pilgrims from all quarters of the kingdom flocked in great numbers to Hereford, where various

* Various accounts are given of this matter. Leland informs us that Ethelbert himſelf appeared to BRICKFRIDUS by night, and ordered him to take up his body and bury it by the monaſtery at Hereford.

various kinds of miracles were ſaid to have been daily wrought at his tomb. * Offa, whoſe conſcience was not yet appeaſed, ſet out for Rome in order to purchaſe his pardon of Pope Adrian I, which was obtained upon the following conditions.

" 1ſt. To build the Church of Marden " (and dedicate it to the Virgin Mary) over " the grave of his royal gueſt, adjoining to " his Palace on the ſouth-weſt ſide, where " the church and vicarage houſe now ſtand."

" 2nd. To build or repair the Cathedral " Church at Hereford, and dedicate it to " St. Ethelbert, and to tranſlate his body " to that church." The former part of this order was executed at the requeſt of Offa, by

* Leland informs us that Edwin a Saxon of great wealth and power gave Biſhop's-caſtle to the Church of Hereford, being perſuaded he was cured of the palſy by the interceſſion of Ethelbert. There is a ſpring or well near the ſide of the caſtle at Hereford which ſtill bears the name of this prince, and is ſaid to have formerly wrought a great number of miraculous cures. It continues, even now, to be viſited for ulcers and ſores of various kinds, and is ſometimes of great ſervice in ſuch caſes. This, no doubt, firſt gave riſe to a belief of its being poſſeſſed of miraculous powers: which belief is not totally eradicated from the minds of ſome even at this time.

by MILFRID or MILFRIDUS, a Viceroy of ſome of the Mercian dominions; who not content with raiſing a ſplendid fabrick to the memory of Ethelbert, enriched it likewiſe with very extenſive poſſeſſions.

3rd. "To give a virgate of his Demeſne lands "next adjoining to the ground whereon his "own houſe ſtood, and where the parſonage "houſe ſtill remains; and likewiſe to give "the great tithes of all his tenants within "this extenſive manor, and double tithes, "viz. the tenth ridge of land plowed and "ſowed by the occupiers, as well as the "tenth cock or ſheaf of corn and grain to "the Canons of the ſaid Cathedral-church; "all which the Dean and Chapter now "enjoy. *"

Beſides theſe donations, Offa likewiſe gave to the Church of Hereford a place in his Eaſt-Angrian dominions, called BELLUS

* See Lord Coningſby p. 1.—His Lordſhip further adds. "The "arms of Offa are even now painted in Marden Church, and a mi-"racle working well ſhewed, and ſaid to have ſprung from the "place where the Saint's head lay, before his body was tranſlated "to Hereford." N. B. Theſe arms have been ſince defaced by order of a pariſh meeting!!

CAMPUS, and founded the Monaſtery of St. Albans for a hundred black Monks. Through theſe charitable donations to eccleſiaſtics, he prevailed upon the Pope to transfer the Primacy of England from Canterbury, where it then was, to Lichfield in his own dominions. In return for this favour, Offa, "following the example of INAS king of "the Weſt-Saxons, made his realm ſubject "by way of tribute unto the church of "Rome, appoynting that every houſe within "the limittes of his dominion ſhould yearly "paye unto the Apoſtolike Sea one pennie, "which payment was after named *Rome-Scot* "or Peter's-pens. *"

After his journey to Rome, Offa lived two years, dying in the year 796, and was ſucceeded by his ſon EGFRIDUS. What became of Quindreda is uncertain. † *Matthew Paris* however informs us that Offa ſhut her up and would never ſuffer her to approach him afterwards. The diſtreſſed and afflicted Althrida, forſaking thoſe pleaſures and that court which were now become odious, had retired

* See Holingſhed p. 195.
† Page 981.

retired, immediately upon the murder of Ethelbert, to a nunnery at Croyland, where ſhe died ſoon after of a broken heart. In a fit of prophetick phrenzy ſhe is ſaid to have foretold, that Egfridus, thro' whoſe ſecret influence over her mother, ſhe had too much reaſon to believe herſelf deprived of her lover, ſhould experience the judgments of heaven, and that he ſhould not reign two years. The prediction was amply verified; for he died a violent death, in one year and a hundred and forty days after he came to the throne.

NOTWITHSTANDING Offa's great care to repreſs the invaſions of the Welſh before mentioned, that valiant people continued to haraſs both him and his ſucceſſors for a long time afterwards. During this period we may imagine that Hereſordſhire was particularly expoſed to their ravages, altho' we have not many actual memorials to bear evidence of them.

In examining the hiſtories of thoſe times we meet with nothing worthy of notice reſpecting Herefordſhire, till the reign of

Edward the Confeſſor. That Monarch, having baniſhed ALGAR, ſon of LEOFFRICK Duke of Mercia for ſome miſdemeanour, entered into a conſpiracy with GRIFFIN king of Wales, with whom he made an inroad into Herefordſhire, laying the whole diſtrict waſte with fire and ſword. *

Edward having collected an army to repel this invaſion, gave the command of it to RALPH the firſt Earl of Hereford, who was ſon of *Walter de Maunt* by *Goda* the king's ſiſter. The armies having met within two miles of the city of Hereford on the 24th. of October 1055, Ralph gave orders for the Engliſh to fight on horſeback, which was contrary to their uſual cuſtom. Nor was he guilty of miſconduct only, but alſo of cowardice; for when the attack ſhould have been made, he betook himſelf to flight, together with the French and Normans that were in his army: by which means the battle was loſt, and a great ſlaughter made amongſt

* The Welſh were driven to theſe rebellions by the ſevere exactions demanded of them by the Engliſh. WILLIAM of MALMSBURY informs us that ATHELSTAN made the Prince of Wales pay a yearly tribute of 20 lb. of Gold and 300 lb. of Silver, which continued to be exacted for ſome ages.

amongſt the Engliſh. The Welſh elated with their victory, immediately proceeded to ſtorm Hereford, which after ſome oppoſition was obliged to be given up. Having got poſſeſſion of the city, they attacked the Cathedral, whither moſt of the citizens had fled for protection, with their wives, children, and the moſt valuable part of their property. The Biſhop, Earl AGELNOTH, and the Canons, ſupported by the citizens, attempted to defend it, but were ſoon overpowered by numbers. No ſooner had the beſiegers got poſſeſſion of the Church, than there followed a moſt dreadful carnage. No age, no ſex, nor any ſupplications, could excite compaſſion. Earl Agelnoth and the Canons ſhared in the common fate. The conquerors, after ſatiating themſelves with ſlaughter, and pillaging the Church of every curious relick, ſet it on fire; the flames of which being communicated to the city, it partook equally of their ſavage barbarity, and was almoſt entirely reduced to aſhes. * LEOFFEGAR the Biſhop was the only perſon whom

* Hereford being almoſt entirely deſtroyed by the above mentioned invaſion, materials for rebuilding it were brought from the ruins of Ariconium. According to this ſenſe, LELAND ſays. "Hereford ſprung from Ariconium."

whom their barbarous fury ſpared. Nor was his fate much to be envied; for being carried away captive, he ſuffered every kind of indignity and torture which ingenuity could deviſe; till at laſt being wearied with finding out new methods of inflicting pain, they put him to death. In conſideration of theſe ſufferings he was afterwards enrolled amongſt the Saints.

The King, who was then at Glouceſter, hearing of the overthrow of his forces, collected another army, and appointed HAROLD Earl of the Weſt-Saxons, (afterwards king Harold) general. Advancing againſt the enemy, he pitched his camp at a place called *Snowden* in Wales: but Algar and Griffin not finding themſelves in a condition to oppoſe him, thought it prudent to make a retreat. Harold purſued them for ſome time without any great advantage or loſs on either ſide, till at laſt he compelled them to lay down their arms, and peace enſued.

Harold having accompliſhed the object of his expedition, returned to Hereford, and ſurrounded it with a deep ditch and broad walls.

walls. The walls are even now ſtanding, and in ſome places but little injured by the ravages of time. Some of the gates were lately taken down with a view of improving the entrance into the city: but the intention has not been anſwered in any great degree. The venerable aſpect of the place is injured, without an adequate acquiſition of elegance.

Harold is alſo ſaid to have built the Caſtle at Hereford about the ſame time. That edifice, according to Leland, occupied a very large tract of ground. He deſcribes it in the following terms. "The Caſtle at "Hereford has been a large thing. Its ruins "ſhew it to have been one of the faireſt "and largeſt in all England. The walls "are high, very ſtrong and full of great "towers." And again he ſays. "Its cir-"cuit is nearly as large as that of Windſor. "The dungeon of the Caſtle is high and "very ſtrong, having in the outer wall or "ward ten towers, of a ſemicircular form, "and one great tower in the inner ward. "There was a great bridge of ſtone arches, "and a draw-bridge in the middle of it, to "enter into the Caſtle." And again. "It

"hath

"hath two wards, and each of them envi-
"roned with water. There came an arm
"of a brook that runneth through a great
"piece of the town, by an arch made in
"the town wall, into the Caſtle dike, and
"ſo compaſſing half the Caſtle, went into
"the Wye. So that with the principal arm
"of this brook, and with the arm of it
"going thro' the Caſtle dike, and with the
"main ſtream of Wye river the whole Caſtle
"was environed: but now the arm of the
"brook cometh not through the Caſtle, yet
"might it ſoon be turned thither." The
ſame author adds. "There was a Corn-
"mill in the Caſtle which was turned by
"the water that ran through the Caſtle."

Though it is generally ſuppoſed that Ha-
ro'd was the builder of the afore-mentioned
caſt'e, when he returned from his expedition
againſt Algar and Griffin, yet it is a matter
by no means agreed upon amongſt antiqua-
ries. Some attribute it to *William Fitz-
Oſborne*, ſome to *Earl Miles*, and others
to the *B huns* Earls of Hereford. But *Ho-
lingſhed* informs us that the caſtle was of
earlier date, being erected, (probably by
Edward

Edward the Confeſſor) before the Welſh invaſion. "In the mean time" ſays that author, "Griffin the king of Wales deſtroyed "a great part of Herefordſhire, againſt whome "the power of that countrye, and alſo "many Normans that lay in garriſon within "the Caſtle of Hereford commyng to give "battayle were overthrown on the ſame "day." Here however it may be remarked, that had the caſtle been in exiſtence at that time, it is natural to ſuppoſe, that the citizens would have retreated thither, rather than to the Cathedral church, as it was undoubtedly a place of greater ſecurity.

Upon the government being transferred from the Saxon to the Norman line, this county, which had formerly been expoſed to the hoſtile and predatory incurſions of the Welſh, claimed the attention and vigilance of the Conqueror in a more than ordinary degree. Indeed, William was too politick a Prince to be inattentive to a diſtrict, which if well ſecured, might form a ſtrong barrier againſt that warlike people. He therefore ſent large colonies into theſe parts under *William Fitz-Oſborne* and *Ralph*

Mortimer, his near relations; and by a policy, the cruelty of which cannot be ſufficiently condemned, deprived the Saxon nobles of their Earldoms and Feifs, which were laviſhed upon his Norman followers, with a ſhameful and almoſt criminal prodigality. Upon William Fitz-Oſborne, beſides the Iſle of Wight, and ſome other emoluments, he beſtowed the whole Earldom of Hereford; whilſt Mortimer was rewarded with the Lordſhip of *Wigmore*, *Melenithe*, &c. taken from *Edrick* Earl of Shrewſbury. In Domeſday book we meet with the following Landholders only in "this County and in Archenfield "in Wales. The King, the Biſhop of He-"reford, the Churches of Cormeils, Lyra, "Glouceſter and St. Guthlac, Nigel the "Phyſician, Ralph Todeni, Ralph Morti-"mer, * Roger de Laci, Roger de Mucelgros, "Robert Gernon, † Henry de Ferrars, "William

* To give us ſome idea of the profuſion of the Conqueror in beſtowing his favours, Dugdale in his Baronetage informs us that Roger Laci had TWO Lordſhips in Berkſhire, TWENTY THREE in Shropſhire, TWENTY in Glouceſterſhire, SIX in Worceſterſhire, and SIXTY FIVE in Herefordſhire! beſides four Carucates of land lying within the limits of the Caſtle of Ewias, which King William had beſtowed on Walter de Laci his Father.

† There is now a Gentleman's family in this County of the name of Garnons, probably deſcended from this Gernon.

"William de Schotries, William Fitz-Bode-
"ron, William Fitz-Norman, Turſtin Fitz-
"Ralf, Albert Lotharienſis, Alured de Mer-
"leberg, Alured de Hilpania, Ausfrid de
"Carmelies, Duraud de Glouceſter, Drogo
"Fitz-Pons, Oſbern Fitz-Richard, Gilbert
"and Ilbert Fitz-Turold, Herman de Drev-
"ves, Humphrey de Buivile, Hugh L'Aſne,
"Urſo D'Abetot, Griffin, Reyner, Carbo-
"nel, the Wife of Ralph the Chaplain,
"Stephen, Madoc, Edric and Elmer."

About this time,* and in the ſucceeding reigns of Rufus, Henry and Stephen, were many

U 2

* William Fitz-Oſborne built the Caſtles of Wigmore, Clifford and Ewias in this County, beſides ſeveral others in Glouceſterſhire.

The following liſt of Caſtles in this County has been given by Antiquaries.

Bredwardine Caſtle.
Barrington ditto. near Aſhton.
Branſtill ditto near Ledbury.
Brampton-Brian ditto.
Comfor, alias Highland ditto. near Leominſter.
Courtfield ditto. near Roſs.
Clifford ditto.
Dorſton ditto.
Ecclewall ditto. near Weſton.
Erdeſland ditto.
Eaton Tregnoſe ditto. near Brampton-Abbots.
Goodrich ditto near Roſs.
Gublington ditto. near Madley.
Griſmond ditto.
Hereford ditto.
Huntingdon ditto.
Harold's-Ewias ditto.
Kilpeck ditto.
Kinnerſley ditto.
Kingland ditto.
Lionſhall ditto.
Longtown ditto.
Pembridge ditto.
Penyard ditto near Roſs.
Richards ditto. near Ludford.
Snodhill ditto.
Whitney ditto.
Wigmore ditto.
Wilton ditto. near Roſs.
Weobley ditto.

many of the Caſtles in this neighbourhood built by the Lords Marchers, with a view of reſtraining the Welſh, but not without a ſecret intention alſo of ſtrengthening themſelves againſt their haughty rivals, or reſiſting the tyranny of their Kings. The veſtiges of twenty eight of theſe Caſtles are ſaid to have been viſible ſome time ſince; but ſuch are the ravages to which they have been expoſed by time, that if we except the ruins of *Wigmore*, *Goodrich*, *Wilton*, *Snodhill*, *Clifford*, and a few others, we can find but few traces of thoſe extenſive and maſſy buildings, which, under the feudal government, frowned with ſuch aweful terror throughout this neighbourhood.

During the conteſt between King *Stephen* and the Empreſs *Matilda*, the inhabitants of this country eſpouſed the cauſe of the latter, at the inſtigation of *Miles* Earl of Hereford. Accordingly we are informed that the Caſtle of Hereford was defended againſt Stephen by *William Talbot:* but on the appearance of the king at the head of his forces, the place was given up, and oppoſition quickly vaniſhed. Being at Hereford

on

on Whitſunday 1138, the king ſat crowned in the Cathedral church during divine ſervice: and at his departure the ſuburbs ſouth of the Wye were, by his orders, reduced to aſhes.

In the reign of King John, this county experienced the evil of a weak and unſtable government in the depredations committed by *William de Braioſa* Lord of Brecknock. Beſides various other ravages in this diſtrict, he ſet the town of Leominſter on fire, which, together with its Church, was burnt entirely to the ground.

When *Simon Montford* Earl of Leiceſter and the diſaffected Barons took up arms againſt king Henry III. they began to commit the firſt acts of hoſtility in Herefordſhire; apprehending and impriſoning Biſhop Aqueblanke and ſome other foreigners. In a farther ſtage of this War, viz. after the battle of *Lewes*, wherein the king and prince Edward were both taken priſoners, Leiceſter, by his aſſumption of power, and haughty conduct, gave great offence to the confederate Barons, and particularly to the Earl of Glouceſter, who imagined that he was aſpiring

aſpiring at the crown. Under the influence of this ſuſpicion, Glouceſter openly confederated with Roger de Mortimer, Roger de Clifford and other Lords of the Marches in Wales, adherents of the king, who fortified all the Caſtles in this neighbourhood and prepared for War. To ſubdue this party, Leiceſter put himſelf at the head of an army, marched towards the Severn, and afterwards came to Hereford, carrying the royal Priſoners along with him.

The Earl of Glouceſter perceiving that, as long as the king and prince were in the hands of Leiceſter, that nobleman's power could never be broken, planned the eſcape of prince Edward, and communicated his deſign to Roger Mortimer, who furniſhed him with the means to put it in execution. Mortimer having many friends at Hereford, made Edward a preſent, by a third perſon, of a very ſwift horſe, acquainting him with the uſe he was to make of it, and the deſign laid for the recovery of his * liberty. To ſecond the project, the prince feigned himſelf

* See Rapin vol. 1ſt. p. 340.

himſelf ill, and deſired to ride out for exerciſe into a place called Wide-marſh. "The "Earl of Leiceſter who ſuſpected nothing "of the matter granted his requeſt. Edward "being come into the fields, immediately "breathed two or three horſes," till he ſaw a perſon ſuppoſed to have been the Lord of Croft, at the foot of Tillington hill, on a white horſe, waving his bonnet.* At this ſignal the Prince mounted the horſe that had been ſent him, and clapping ſpurs to his ſides, ſoon left his attendants behind. When he came to the Park at Tillington, he met a troop of Horſe, ſent by the Earl of Glouceſter † to favour his eſcape, who chaſed his purſuers back to the gates of Hereford, making great ſlaughter amongſt them.

Some hiſtorians, however, attribute the plan of this eſcape entirely to Mortimer, "who ſeeing his ſovereign in this great diſ-"treſs took no reſt till he had contrived "ſome way to reſcue him, and to that end "ſent

* See Dugdale's Bar.

† See Rapin p. 340.

"ſent a ſwift horſe to the Prince then pri-
"ſoner with the King in the Caſtle of He-
"reford, for the purpoſe before mentioned,
"and that the Prince obtaining leave of
"Montford to try if the horſe were of uſe
"for the great ſaddle; firſt wearied out o-
"ther horſes and then got on this, (a boy
"with two ſwords, whom this Roger had
"ſent being near with another horſe) and
"ſo turning himſelf to Robert de Ros then
"his keeper, and other byeſtanders, ſaid,
"I have been in your cuſtody for a time,
"but now I bid you farewell; and ſo rode
"away; adding, that this Roger Mortimer
"with his Banner diſplayed, received him
"at a hill called Dinmore, and ſo conveyed
"him to his Caſtle at Wigmore. *" By this diverſion of the Earl of Glouceſter's forces, the power of the Barons was broken, which was the means of their overthrow ſoon after at Eveſham, and the reſtoration of the King to his liberty.

In the reign of King Edward II, the Queen, Prince Edward, and Barons called a Parliament at Hereford, where they declared the

* See Dugdale's Bar.

the Prince, afterwards King Edward III. the protector of the Kingdom, his Father being then alive. About the ſame time, Hugh Spencer the younger, Earl of Glouceſter, the king's favourite, was hanged at Hereford on a gallows fifty feet high; as were alſo Sir Simon de Reading, John Earl of Arundel, John Daniel, and Thomas de Michaldure, friends and partizans of the Earl of Glouceſter.

In the reign of Henry IV. about the year 1402. Owen Glendowr made an incurſion into this county, and committed great depredations. He defeated the Lord Edmund Mortimer Earl of March, in a battle at Pelale in Wales; took him priſoner, and conveyed him to the caſtle of Trim in Ireland, where he was kept almoſt twenty years, ſuffering great hardſhips; till at laſt he ended his days thro' extreme grief, in the third year of the reign of Henry VI. It is ſaid that king Henry could not be prevailed on to redeem him, on account of his title to the crown.

HARDING has the following Lines concern-

ing the battle and miſerable impriſonment, which the Earl of March ſuffered afterwards.

" Syr Edmonde then Mortimer warred ſore "
" Upon Owen, and did hym mekyll tene, "
" But at laſte, Owen laye hym before, "
" Where in battell they fought as well as was ſene, "
" Where Owen toke hym priſoner, as then full kene, "
" With mekell folke on eyther ſyde ſlayne, "
" And ſet Edmonde in priſone and great payne. "
" He wrote unto the kyng for great ſocoure, "
" For he had made with Owen his fynaunce, "
" To whom the kyng wold grant then fauoure, "
" Ne nought he wold then make him eheueſaunce, "
" For to comfort his foes diſobeyſaunce. "
" Wherefore he laye in fetters & ſore priſone, "
" For his none payment of his great raunſone. "

See Weever's Monuments.

During the conteſts between the houſes of York and Lancaſter, this county, which ſided with the former on account of Wigmore, and

and ſeveral other Lordſhips of the Mortimers, did not eſcape without experiencing its ſhare of the horrors of War. Accordingly, whilſt Richard Duke of York was in the North preparing to give battle to the forces of Henry VI. or rather thoſe of Queen Margaret, his ſon Edward Earl of March, (afterwards king Edward IV.) raiſed an Army of twenty three thouſand men in this neighbourhood, with an intention to aſſiſt him. Coming to Shrewſbury, he had intelligence brought him, that his Father was ſlain at the battle of Wakefield, and his army defeated: but not diſcouraged by this ill fortune, he was determined to try the iſſue of another engagement. "Whilſt he was taking this * "reſolution, the Queen advanced towards "London, with deſign to ſecure that city, "which alone could influence, and even "determine the fortune of either party. But "hearing upon the road that the Earl of "March began to move, ſhe detached Jaſper "Tudor Earl of Pembroke, and James Butler "Earl of Ormond, with a body of Welſh "and Iriſh, to oppoſe this new enemy,

 "whom

* See Rapin, vol. 1. p. 586.

" whom ſhe did not imagine to be ſo ſtrong
" as he was. The Earl of March being
" informed of the Queen's motion towards
" London, altered his courſe, and inſtead
" of going to meet her, took likewiſe the
" road to London, in order to prevent her.
" But having advice of the detachment ſent
" againſt him, he did not think proper to
" come between the two armies of his ene-
" mies, which muſt have happened had he
" continued his rout. So, coming to a
" ſudden reſolution, he returned to meet the
" Earl of Pembroke," with a deſign of giving him battle. The two armies met on Candlemas day 1460, at a place called MORTIMER'S-CROSS, near Leominſter in this County. Edward himſelf commanded the whole of his forces. On Margaret's ſide, Jaſper had the chief command, and the Earl of Ormond and Wiltſhire, together with Owen Tudor, led the van. The conteſt was begun with great heat, and continued with obſtinate valour on both ſides. At laſt the Queen's forces, being overpowered by numbers, gave way, after a loſs of three thouſand eight hundred men. The two Earls fled, and Owen Tudor, with many other perſons

perſons of eminence, were taken priſoners, and beheaded at Hereford. Hiſtorians aſſert, that upon the two armies joining battle, there was an appearance of three * ſuns in the firmament at the ſame time. This, tho' an unuſual phænomenon in this Kingdom, is by no means ſtrange or ſingular in ſome parts of the world. Thoſe who have viſited the Alps, the Andes, or the coaſts of Greenland, inform us, that Mock-ſuns are there often reflected upon an oppoſite cloud, and the ignorant ſpectator fancies that there are three or four ſuns in the firmament at the ſame time. †

Drayton in his "Miſeries of Queene Margarite," gives the following deſcription of the battle at Mortimer's croſs.

"EDWARD of March, the Duke his father ſlaine,
Succeeding him whilſt things thus badly ſort,
Gathering an army, but yet all in vaine,
To ayde his father, for he came too ſhort,
Hearing that Pembroke with a warlike trayne
Was coming towards him, touch'd with the report,

His

* The Mortimers afterwards bore the ſun for their creſt.
† See Goldſmith's Animated nature vol. 1ſt.

His valiant Marchers for the field prepares,
To meet the Earle, if to approach he dares.

JASPER, by birth half brother to the king,
On bright Queene Katherine got by Owen Teiher,
Whom Henry's love did to this Earldome bring;
And as from Wales deſcended ſent him thither,
And of SOUTH-WALES gave him the Governing,
Where in ſhort time he got an hoſt together,
Cleaving to Henry who did him preferre,
As an Alye to the houſe of Lancaſter.

Upon their march when as they laſtly met,
Neere to the croſs that MORTIMER is na.n'd,
Where they in order their battalions ſet,
The Duke and Earl with equal rage enflam'd,
With angry eyes they one the other threat,
Their deadly Arrows at each other aym'd:
And there a fierce and deadly fight begin,
A bloodier battell yet there had not bin.
The Earl of Ormond an aſſociate then
With this young Tudor, for the king that ſtood,
Came in the Vanguard with his Iriſh men
With darts and ſkaines; thoſe of the brittiſh blood

With

With ſhaftes and greaves them ſeconding againe,
And as they fall ſtill make their places good,
That it amaz'd the Marchers to behold,
Men ſo ill arm'd upon their Bowes ſo bold.

Now the Welſh and Iriſh ſo their weapons weel'd,
As tho' themſelves they conquerors meant to cal,
Then are the Marchers maſters of the field,
With their brown bills the welſhmen ſo they mall.
Now th' one now th' other likely were to yeeld,
Theſe like to fly, then thoſe were like to fall,
Untill at length (as fortune pleas'd to guide)
The conqueſt turn'd upon the Yorkilts' ſide.

Three ſuns were ſeen that inſtant to appeare,
Which ſoone againe ſhut up themſelves in one,
Ready to buckle as the armies were,
Which this brave Duke took to himſelf alone,
His drooping hopes which ſomwhat ſeem'd to cheere,
By his miſhaps, neere lately overthrowne.
So that thereby encouraging his men,
Once more he ſets the white roſe up agen.

Pembroke and Ormond ſave themſelves by flight,

Four thouſand ſouldiers of both armies dead;
But the great loſſe on the Lancaſtrians light
So ill the friends of poore king Henry ſped;
Where Owen Tudor taken in the flight,
This young Earle's father by queene Katherines bed,
At Hereford not farre away from thence,
Where others with him dyde for their offence.

When the Wars broke out between King Charles I, and his parliament, Sir William Waller took the city of Hereford for the latter; but the King's forces recovered it again, and Sir Barnabas Scudamore being made governor, he added ſeveral new works to its fortifications. Soon after this, the Scotch came to the aſſiſtance of the parliament army, and on the 15 of Auguſt 1645, ſummoned the governour to ſurrender. Sir Barnabas rejected their ſummons, and defended the city ſo well, that after the Scots had loſt the greateſt part of their army, they raiſed the * ſiege and retired to the north.

* The Entrenchments of the ſcotch Army are yet to be ſeen about a quarter of a mile ſouth-eaſt from the City, in ſome meadows called Baſſom or Bartonſham meadows; wh re pieces of ſwords, gunlocks, &c. are frequently picked up in tilling the ground.

north. But in December following, Colonels Birch and Morgan, having by a ſtratagem poſſeſſed themſelves of the draw-bridge, broke into the city with a body of two thouſand men, and after a ſhort ſkirmiſh compelled the garriſon to ſubmit, and yield themſelves priſoners of war. Amongſt theſe were Lord Budenell, fourteen Knights, Judge Jenkins, and a great number of officers and gentlemen. In reward for the valour and fidelity of the city during the ſiege, a new charter was granted after the reſtoration, wherein its arms were augmented, and very honourable mention made of its loyalty.

Having proceeded thus far, the author is now obliged to cloſe the preſent introductory volume, leſt he ſhould anticipate thoſe ſubjects which will be better introduced, when he ſhall proceed to a more minute hiſtory of the County, according to an alphabetical arrangment of its diſtricts and pariſhes.

APPENDIX.

A LIST OF SHERIFFS * FOR THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

HENRY II, A. D. 1154.

1, - - - - - - - - - -
2, Walter de Hereford, for five years.
7, Will. de Bello Campo, for nine years.
16, Idem, et Walter Clicums.
17, Willielmus de la Lega.
18, Gilbertus Pypard, for two years.
20, Willielmus de Braiosa, for two years.
22, Radulphus Pulcherus, for seven years.

* SHERIFF, i. e. Shire-reeve; the chief Magistrate of a Shire: called in latin VICE-COMES, because he was formerly deputy to the Earl or Comes, to whom the custody of the Shire is said to have been committed at the first division of the Kingdom into Counties. But the Earls in process of time by reason of their high employment, and attendance on the King's person, not being able to transact the business of the counties, were delivered of that burden; reserving to themselves the honour, but the labour was laid on the Sheriff. He is indeed called Vice-comes now, yet is he entirely independent of, and not subject to the Earl: the King by his Letters patent committing CUSTODIAM COMITATUS to the Sheriff and him alone. Henry II. according to Matthew Paris, instituted or rather restored the office of Sheriff which was anciently conferred in the County court by the Suffrages of the people.

29, Milo de Mucegroſs, et Willielmus Torelle
30, Willielmus Torelle.
31, Radulphus Arden, for three years.

RICHARD I. 1189.

1, Radulphus de Arden.
2, Henr. de Longo Campo.
3, Willielmus de Braioſa, for two years.
5, Henr. de Longo Campo, et Willielmus de Braioſa.
6, Roger de Fitz-Mauricis.
7, Willielmus de Braioſa, for two years.
9, Willi. de Braioſa et Willi. de Burchull.
10, Idem *

JOHN, 1199.

1, Walter de † Clifford, et Gilbertus Clifford
2, Willi. de § Braioſa, et Willi. Burchull.
3,

* The word IDEM is frequently made uſe of in FULLER's WORTHIES, from which this liſt is copied, where the conteſt ſeems to require that it ſhould be IIDEM; for as the ſame names frequently occur at a very ſmall diſtance of time, we may conclude that the office of Sheriff was ſometimes ſhared between two or three. In obedience to Fuller, however, the word Idem is preſerved.

† Of Clifford Caſtle near the Hay, brothers to fair Roſamund, "The boaſt and brand of Clifford's noble race."

§ This William de Braioſa ſet Leominſter on fire. It had been burnt before by the Danes as early as the year 670.

3, Hubert de Burgo, et Rich. de Signes, for three years.
6, Willi. de Cantilupe, et Walter de Puhier.
7, Idem.
8, Walter de Clifford et Oſbert Fil. Willielmi
9, Idem.
10, Gerer. de Atria et Rich. de Burges.
11, Idem.
12, Endebard de Cicomato et Rich. de Burges
13, Fnozelcardus de Cicomato, et Rich. Burges, for four Years.

HENRY III, 1215.

1, Walter de Laſey.
2, Thomas de Aneſey.
3, Walter de Laſey, et Warrinus de Grindon, for three years.
6 Walter de Laſey, et Thomas de Aneſey
7, Walter de Laſey.
8, Rad. fil. Nich. et Hen. frater ejus, et Joan. de Eaſt, for three years.
11, * Rad. fil. Nich. et Hen. frater ejus, et Joan. de Eaſt, for three years.
14, Joan. de Fleg, for two years.
16, Joan. de Munenurs.
17, Willielmus fil. Warrini, for two years.
19,

* Here it is evident there were three Sheriffs at the ſame time.

19, Amaricus de Sancto Amando.
20, Amaricus de Sancto Amando, et Rich. de Fardington.
21, Idem.
22, Amaricus de Sancto Amando, et Math. de Codray, for three years.
25, Amaricus de Cancell, for ſeven years.
32, Walleranus.
33, Walleranus de Bradlegh:
34, Hugo de Kinnardell.
35, Henr. de Bradlegh, for two years.
37, Willi. de Sancto Omero, for two years.
39, Joan. de Breckon, for three years.
42, Henr. de Penebridge.
43, Idem et Rich. de Baggindin.
44, Robertus de Meyſy, for two years.
46, Robertus de Meyſy et Adam de Bideford, for ſeven years.
53, Barthol. de Stuteley et Adam de Botiler, for three years.

EDWARD I, 1272.

1, Barthol. de Stuteley et Adam de Botiler.
2, Idem.
3, Joan. de Ware
4, Egid. de Berkel, for three years.
7, Roger de Burghall, for twelve years.

19,

19, Henr. de Solers, for three years
22, Joan. de Acton, for ſix years.
28, Milo Pickard, for ſix years.
34, Joan. de Acton
34, Thomas Roſſal.

EDWARD II, 1307.

1, Walter de Halits, for four years.
5, Roger de Chandos, for three years.
8, Rich. de Baſkerville
9, Idem.
10, Hugo Hackluit.
11, Idem,
12, Roger de Elmerugge.
13, Idem.
14, Roger Chandos, for five years.

EDWARD III, 1327.

1, Roger Chandos, for five years.
6, Joan. de Rous.
7, Idem.
8, Joan. Mauger, Rob. Chandos et Joan. de Rous.
9, Idem.
10, Rich. Walwayn, for ſeven years.
17, Joan. Walwayn.
18, Willielmus de Radour, for three years.

21,

21, Thomas Pickard.
22, Joan. Sholle et Thomas Pickard.
23, Rich. Danſy et John Sholle.
24, Rich. Danſy.
25, Thomas de Aſton.
26, Rich. de Burges.
27, Idem.
28, Rich. Brugge vel Burges.
29, Rich. de la Bere.
30, Thomas Atte Berre et Rich. de la Bere.
31, Ed. Hackluit, for three years.
34, Thomas Chandois.
35, Rich. de la Bere, for ten years.
45, Thomas Chandois.
46, Willielmus Devereux.
47, Thomas Chandois.
48, Idem.
49, Ed. de Burges.
50, Walter * Devereux et Tho. de la Bere.
51, Idem.

RICHARD

* This Walter Devereux obtained a licence for a Market and Fair at Bodenham, in the year 1379. but they are now diſuſed. "The Market was every week upon the Tueſday, and the Fair on "the Eve, day, and morrow after the Aſſumption of our Lad.." vid Dug bar.

The family of Devereux, or de Ebroicis came over with the Conqueror, and had large poſſeſſions in this neighbourhood. Sir William, father to this Walter, poſſeſſed Bodenham, Lyonſhall, Weobley, Whitchurch, &c. &c.

RICHARD II, 1377.

1, Rich. Whitney, Armiger.
2, Sim. de Brugge.
3, Joan. Walwayne.
4, Hugo Carew.
5, Sim. de Brugge.
6, Joan. Walwayne.
7, Roger Pauncefott.
8, Thomas de la Barre.
9, Nich. Maurdin.
10, Thomas Oldcaſtle.
11, Rinardus de la Bere.
12, Thomas de la Barre.
13, Thomas Walwayne.
14, Hugh. de Monington.
15, Thomas Oldcaſtle.
16, Maſcre de la Mare.
17, Thomas Walwayne.
18, Joan. Walwayne.
19, Thomas de la Barre.
20, Idem.
21, Thomas Clanowe.
22, Idem.

HENRY IV, 1399.

1, Joan. ap Harry.
2, Will. Lucy Mil. et Leon. Hackluit, M.

3, Joan. Bodenham, for three years
6, Joan. Merbury.
7, Joan. * Oldcaſtle, Miles
8, Idem.
9, J. Scudamore, Miles
10, Joan. Smert.
11, Joan. Bodenham
12, Willielmus Walwein.

HENRY V, 1413.

1, Rob. Whitney.
2, Joan. Merbury.
3,

* Sir John Oldcaſtle, Lord Cobham, was a great friend to the Wickliffites or Lollards, and embraced their doctrine, on which account he loſt his life. As he was generally at court and a favourite there, the King firſt endeavoured by fair means to make him alter his religious opinions; but not ſucceeding, he gave authority to Thomas Arundel, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and the other Biſhops, to examine into his tenets and to puniſh him if he continued refractory. Accordingly he was examined, convicted of being a "moſt pernicious and deteſtible heretick," impriſoned in the tower, and condemned to forfeit his life. By the aſſiſtance however of Sir Roger Acton he made his eſcape and fled into Wales where he continued ſecure for four years. He was outlawed ſoon after, and a large ſum of money offered for him alive or dead. This ſo far influenced Lord Powis, that whilſt the King was abſent in France, he had Sir John apprehended and ſent bound to Parliament: who was immediately ſentenced "to be drawn as a Traitor thro' London to the new Gallows in St. Giles' without temple-bar, and there to be hanged and burned hanging." This ſentence was accordingly executed A. D. 1417.

See Magn. Brit.

3, Joan. Bodenham.
4, Joan. Brugge.
5, Joan. Ruſſel.
6, Thomas Holgot.
7, Joan. Merbury
8, Rich. de la Bere
9, Idem.

HENRY VI, 1422.

1, Rich. de la Bere.
2, Rowl. Lenthall.
3, G. Whittington.
4, Joan. Merbury
5, Thomas de lay Hay jun.
6, Rob. Whitney, Miles.
7, Rich. de la Bere
8, Joan. Merbury
9, Joan. Scudamore.
10, - - - - - - - - -
11, Rob. Whitney, Miles.
12, Thomas de la Hay.
13, Thomas Merbury.
14, Thomas Mille
15, Rob. Whitney
16, J. Pauncefoote
17, Walter Skull.
18, Rad. Walwin

19, Willielmus Lucy
20, Idem.
21, Hen. Charlton
22, T. Parker
23, Rad. Walwain
24, Thomas Mille
25, Hump. Stafford
26, Walter Devereux
27, Walter Skull, Miles.
28, Joan. Scudamore.
29, Joan. Berry, Miles.
30, Thomas Parker, Ar.
31, Thomas Cornwayl
32, Willielmus Lucy, Ar.
33, Joan. Barry, Miles
34, Walter Skull, Miles
35, Joan. Scudamore, Miles
36, Joan. Seymour, Miles
37, Walter Cateſby, Miles
38, Jam. Baſkerville.

EDWARD IV, 1461.

1, Joan. Welford.
2, Thomas Monington.
3, Idem.
4, Sim. Melburn, Ar.
5, Joan. Baſkerville, Miles

6,

6, Joan. Lingein, Ar.
7, Thomas Cornwall, Ar.
8, Walter Wigmore
9, W. Baſkerville, Miles
10, Rich. Croft, ſen. Ar.
11, Rich. * Croft, ſen. Miles
12, Joan. Lingein, Miles
13, Thomas Monington
14, Jam. † Baſkerville, Miles
15, Robert Whitney
16, Rich. Croft, Miles
17, R. Hackluit.
18, J. Mortimer, Miles
19, R. de la Bere, Miles.
20, Sim. Melborne
21, J. Baſkerville, Miles
22, Joan. Mortimer.

RICHARD III, 1483.

1, Rich. de la Bere, Miles
2, Thomas Cornwall, Miles

3,

* Of Croft Caſtle near Leominſter. This Sir Richard Croft took Prince Edward, eldeſt ſon to Henry VI, priſoner at the battle of Tewkſbury; whom upon proclamation and promiſe of ſafety for his perſon, he produced; but had no hand whatever in the barbarous murder of that young prince, which was committed by the King's two brothers, the Dukes of Clarence and Glouceſter.

† The Baſkervilles of Eardiſley were for many reigns, Champions to the Kings of England.

3, Rich. Crofts, Miles.

HENRY VII, 1485.

1, Joan. Mortimer.
2, Joan. Lingein
3, Roger Bodenham
4, Hen. Scudamore
5, Joan. Devereux, Miles
6, Thomas Monington
7, Rich. Greenway
8, Rich. de la Bere, Miles
9, Joan. Mortimer, Miles
10, Ed. Blunt, Ar.
11, Joan. Lingein, Miles
12, Hen. Harper, Ar.
13, Joan. Lingein, Ar.
14, Rich. Greenway
15, Hen. Mile, Ar.
16, Rich. Miners, Ar.
17, Joan. Mortimer, Miles
18, Thomas Cornwall, Miles
19, Idem.
20, Ed. Croft, Ar.
21, Joan. Lingein, jun. Miles,
22, R. Cornwall, Ar.
23, R. Hackluit, Ar.
24, Hen. Mile, Ar.

HENRY VIII, 1509.

1, Ed. Croft, Ar.
2, Rich. de la Bere, Ar.
3, Thomas Monington, Ar.
4, Hen. Mile, Ar.
5, Ed. Croft, Miles
6, Thomas Cornwall, Miles
7, Willielmus Herbert, Miles
8, Joan. Lingein, Miles
9, Ed. Croft, Miles
10, Rich. Hackluit
11, Rich. Cornwall
12, Joan. Lingein, Miles
13, Ed. Croft, Miles
14, Rowl. Morton
15, Joan. Baſkerville.
16, Joan. Scudamore, Ar.
17, Hen. Vane, Ar.
18, Rich. Cornwall
19, Thomas Baſkerville
20, Thomas Lingen, Miles
21, Ed. Croft, Miles
22, R. Vaughan, Miles
23, Rich. Walwein, Ar.
24, Thomas Monington, Ar.
25, Ed. Croft, Miles
26, Mich. Liſter, Ar.

27,

27, Willielmus Clinton, Ar. et Thomas Clinton, Ar.
28, Joan. Scudamore, Ar.
29, Joan. Blount, Ar.
30, Joan. Packington, Ar.
31, Mich. Liſter, Ar.
32, Thomas Monington
33, Rich. Vaughan
34, Jac. Baſkerville, Miles
35, Joan. Scudamore
36, Joan. Lingein, Ar.
37, Step. ap Harry, Ar.
38, Roger Bodenham.

EDWARD VI, 1547.

1, Joan. Cornwall, Miles
2, Thomas Baſkerville, Ar.
3, Joan. Harley, Ar.
4, Jac. Baſkerville
5, J. Baſkerville
6, Joan. Scudamore, Ar.

PHILIP AND MARY, 1553.

1, Joan. Price, Miles
2, Thomas Howard, Ar.
3, Joan. Baſkerville
4, Thomas Winſton, Ar.

5,

5, Rich. Monington.
6, Roger Bodenham, Ar.

ELIZABETH, 1558.

1, Geor. Cornwall.
2, Thomas Blount, Ar.
3, Joh. Harley, Ar.
4, J. Huband, Ar.
5, Geor. ap Harry, Ar.
6, Jam. Baſkerville.
7, Joh. Scudamore, Ar.
8, Geor. Price, Ar.
9, Willielmus Shelley, Ar.
10, Th. Clinton, Ar.
11, Th. Baſkerville.
12, Jo. Baſkerville, Ar.
13, J. Huband, Miles
14, Hugo ap Harry.
15, Jo. Abrahall, Ar.
16, Jac. Whitney, Miles
17, Geor. Price, Ar.
18, Jac. Warncomb.
19, Thomas Morgan, Ar.
20, Willielmus Baſkerville, Ar.
21, Willielmus * Cecil, Ar.

* Of ALTERENNIS, couſin to Lord Burleigh, the celebrated Miniſter of Queen Elizabeth. His unfortunate rival the Earl of Eſſex was born at NAYNWOOD in this County.

22, Fran. Blount, Ar.
23, J. Scudamore, Ar.
24, Thomas Coningſby, Ar.
25, Ric. Walwein, Ar.
26, Hugh Baſkerville, A.
27, Rog. Bodenham, Ar.
28, Ja. Whitney, Miles
29, Jac. Boyle, Ar.
30, Jo. Berington, Ar.
31, T. Baſkerville
32, Cha. * Brudges, Ar.
33, Willielmus Rudham, Ar.
34, Rich. Tomkins, Ar.
35, Rog. Bodenham, Ar.
36, Thomas Harley, Ar.
37, Geor. Price, Ar.
38, Euſtace Whitney.
39, Nich. Garnons, Ar.

40,

* The Sirname of Brydges is ſpelt different ways. We have met with it written Brugge, Bruges, Burgh, Brigge, &c. and it occurs in this liſt in the tenth of King John, &c. written Burges. The above Cha. Bruges was Cup-bearer to King Philip and was Deputy Lieutenant of the tower to his Father John Lord Chandos, when the warrant came for excecuting the Princeſs afterwards Queen Elizabeth, which he refuſed to obey, till he had received further orders from the King and Queen. This was the means of ſaving the life of that Princeſs, for the order being diſowned at court, a final ſtop was put to the execution. His grandſon James, afterwards Duke of Chandos, was created Viſcount Wilton in the County of Hereford 19th. October 1714. 1. Geo. I.

40, Thomas Coningſby, Ar.
41, Willielmus Dauntſey
42, Hen. Vaughan
43, Ja. Scudamore, Miles
44, Rich. Hyatt, Ar.
45, Thomas Harley.

JAMES I, 1603.

1, Thomas Harley, Ar.
2, Joh. Blount, Ar.
3, J. Berrington, Ar.
4, Jacob Tomkins, Ar.
5, Willielmus Rudhall, Ar.
6, Joh. Kirle, Ar.
7, Rich. Hopton, Miles
8, Hug. Baſkerville, Miles
9, Hump. Cornwall, Ar.
10, Rob. Kirle, Ar.
11, Joh. Colles, Ar.
12, Franc. Smallman, Ar.
13, Rich. Cox, Ar.
14, Rowl. Scudamore, Ar.
15, Amb. Elton, Ar.
16, Herb. Weſtfaling, Ar.
17, Willielmus Unet, Ar.
18, Ed. Lingein, Ar.
19, Joh. Bridges, Ar.

20, Sam. Aubrie, Miles.
21, Jac. Rodd, Ar.
22, Fran. Pember, Ar.

CHARLES I, 1625.

1, Egidius Bridges.
2, Fitz-Willielmus Coningſby.
3, Willielmus Read, Ar.
4, Joh. Kirle, Bart.
5, Jac. Kirle, Ar.
6, Walop Brabazon
7, Roger Danſey, Ar.
8, Ph. Holman, Ar.
9, Joh. Abrahall, Ar.
10, W. Scudamore.
11, Th. Wigmore, Ar.
12, Roger Vaughan
13, Hen. * Lingein, Ar.

14,

* The following curious memorandum, which was communicated by a friend, ſhews the extreme diſtreſs to which King Charles was reduced for want of money.

"March 22d. 1643. What Plate was dd. to Henry Lingen "Eſquier high Sherife upon a privey ſeals for the loane of 20l. "lent to his Majeſty."

"One guilt boule with a cover, and one guilt ſalte with a "cover, and one guilt trencher ----- ſalte, one great ſilver "ſalte, one caudle cupe and cover, one little ſpoone and one "Tunne."

Henry

14, Rob. Whitney, Miles.
15,
16,
17, Iſaac Seward.
18,
19,
20,
21,
22, Ambroſe Elton, Ar.
23, Francis Kyrlis.
24, John Scudamore.

1649.

Henry Lingen was a ſtanch loyaliſt during King Charles' wars with his Parliament, and kept the King a regiment of Horſe at Sutton, at his own expence: on which accounts he was afterwards fined by the Parliament.

The following receipt for the firſt payment is now in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Unet of Sutton.

"Rec. by us Richard Waring and Michael Herring, Treaſurers of the Moneys to be paide into Goldſmith's Hall, of Sir Henry Lingein of Sutton in the Countie of Hereford Knt. the ſum of two thouſand pounds in part of ſix thouſand three hundred and forty two pounds, for his firſt and ſecond being in Warre againſt the Parliament and ſo impoſed on him by the Lords and Commons as a fine for his delinquency to the Parliament. We ſay rec. this 28th. day of May 1649. In part

Richard Waring
Michael Herring.

Sir Henry Lingein hath ſecured by Regognizance for payement of 4342l. 0s. 0d. being his laſt payement

Entered 13th. Novr.

T. Bayly Reg. M. H."

1649, John James.
1650, Francis Pember, of Newport.
1651, J. Patteſhall.
1652, Charles Milborne, of Lanrothall.
1653, William Bridgeis, of Tibberton.
1654, Richard Hopton.
1655, ——— Rogers.
1656,
1657, Will. Kinſon alias Powell, of Pugilley.
1658, Francis Pember Eſqrs.

CHARLES II.

12, John Scudamore Bt.
13,
14, John Handford.
15, Thomas Cocks.
16, Francis Unet.
17,
18, John Vaughan.
19, Jacob Brydges.
20, Gilbert Nicholetts.
21, Humphrey Baſkerville.
22, William Danſey.
23, Marſhall Brydges.
24, Richard Whitehall.
25, John Scudamore.
26, Henry Williams, of Clifford.

27, Robert Rodd.
28, Richard Snead.
29, John Goodyer.
30,
31, Rolands Baugh.
32, John Skipp.
33, Thomas Nunbury Bt.
34, Edward Jones.
35, John Kyrle.
36, Anthony Rowdon Eſqrs.

JAMES II.

1, Anthony Rowdon alias Bowdon.
2, J. Herbert Maſters.
3,
4, Herbert Maſters Eſqrs.

WILLIAM AND MARY.

1, William Fynes.
2, Charles Baldwyn.
3, Edward Littleton.
4, William Gwyllim.
5, John Fletcher.
6, Anthony Biddulph.
7, John Long.
8, Samuel Birch.
9, Humphrey Mayo.

10, William Gregory.
11, John Hereford.
12, John Shepard.
13, Robert Symonds Eſqrs,
14,

ANNE.

1, John Noble.
2, William Barneſley, of Eardeſley,
3, Herbert Aubry.
4, Mark Abrahall.
5, John Skipp.
6, Richard Hopper, of Lucton.
7, Sir Francis Charlton Bt.
8, Joſeph Kyrwood.
9, John Carpenter.
10, —— Clark, of Hereford.
11, Robert Weaver.
12, Philip Jackſon Eſqrs.

GEORGE I.

1, Joſeph Clarke.
2, T. Mayo, of Hope under Dinmore.
3, T. Berrington, of Berik-hurſt.
4, Henry Jones.
5, John Dutton Colt jun.
6, George Carver, of Upton.

7,

7, Edward Witherſton.
8, Richard Bond.
9, Thomas Carpenter.
10, Richard Stephens.
11, Thomas James de Murcott.
12, Herb. Triſt, of Hereford.
13, William Chin, of Walford Eſqrs.

GEORGE II.

1, William Skynner.
2, J. Tyler, of Dilwyn.
3, T. Davies, of New-houſe.
4, John Capell, of Monnington.
5, John Cocks.
6, James Walwyn.
7, Manſell Powell.
8, Robert Mynes.
9, William Phillips, of Newton.
10, Richard Gorges, Eye.
11, Thomas Read.
12, J. Skinner, of Bickerton.
13, Lutley Barneby, Brockhampton.
14, Edward Eckley, Credenhill.
15, J. Whitmore, Haywood.
16, J. Simmonds, of the Mynd.
17, William Bridges, Tiberton.
18, J. Patteſhall', Pudleſtone.

19, R. Smith, Bullingham.
20, Benſalem Edwards, Bodenham.
21, Henry Cliffe, Eveſbatch.
22, J. Delahay, Peterchurch.
23, T. Legge, Willey.
24, T. Gwillim, Burghill.
25, Sir J. Morgan, Kinnerſley.
26, Thomas Dunne, Gatley Park.
27, Giles Whitehall, Leominſter.
28, T. Penoyre, Clifford.
29, Ed. Thomas, Michael-Church.
30, Robert Minors Gouge.
31, William Cope Gregory.
32, Sir James Broome, Withington Eſqrs.

GEORGE III.

1, J. Hereford, of Mordeford.
2, J. Cotterell Brooks, of Garnons.
3, Howarth Cooke, of Holmer.
4, George Terry, Hereford.
5, Ed. Greenly, Huntingdon.
6, William Vaſton, Leominſter.
7, Harcourt Aubrey, Clehonger.
8, T. Peploe Birch, Garnſton.
9, Richard Gorges, Eye.
10, William Nourſe, Weſton.
11, Price Clutton, Kinnerſly.

12,

12, Sir Chandois Hoſkyns, Harewood.
13, John Skip, Ledbury.
14, Uvedale Price, Foxley.
15, John Stratford Collins, Walford.
16, John Freeman, Letton.
17, James King, Stanton.
18, James Clutton, Kinnerſley.
19, John Coldecott, Holmer.
20, John Salway, Richard's Caſtle.
21, Bell Loyd, Preſteigne.
22, Edward Patteſhall, Allenſmore.
23, Fr. Will. Tho. Bridges, Tibberton.
24, Tomkins Dew, Whitney.
25, James Walwyn, Longworth.
26, Sir Hungerford Hoſkyns Bt.
27, Sir Edward Boughton Bt.
28, Richard Cope Hopton, Canon-Froome.
29, Thomas Downes, Letton.
30, William Taylor, Tillington.
31, J. Scudamore Lechmere, Fownhope.
32, Thomas Stallard Penoyre.
33, Richard Chambers Eſqrs.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT &c. FROM BROWN-WILLIS' NOTITIA PARLIAMENTARIA.

"The city of Hereford is ſaid to have been incorporated by King John. Here are a Mayor, ſix Aldermen and twenty-four common council-men by Charter of 17, James I. The election of members of Parliament which it has ſent *ab origine* is in the citizens and freemen, in number about one thouſand two hundred, and the returning officer the Mayor."

"LEOMINSTER or LEMPSTER Borough ſent Members 23, Edward I. which are elected by the Inhabitants paying ſcot and lot, in number about four hundred. The returning officer is the Bailiff. Queen Mary is ſaid to have incorporated it. Here are a Bailiff, Recorder, and twenty-four capital Burgeſſes."

"WEOBLEY. After this place had returned to all Edward I. ſeven Parliaments, it diſcontinued

diſcontinued ſending till it was reſtored 15, Charles I. 1640, by the order of the Houſe of Commons. It is no Corporation, nor are here any Arms. The members are elected by the inhabitants paying ſcot and lot, in number about eighty five, and the returning officers are the Conſtables"

"DISUSED OR OBSOLETE BOROUGHS that were anciently ſummoned to ſend Members to parliament, and what returns they reſpectively made."

BROMYARD BURGUS.
EDWARD I.

33. Parliament at Weſtminſter. Reginald de Skodner,
John le Machon.

LEDBURY BURGUS.
EDWARD I.

23. Parl. at Weſtminſter, Roger Capon,
John Boſevile.
33. ditto. William Eſegar,
Roger Fitz-Herich.

ROSS BURGUS.
EDWARD I. 33.

33. Parl. at Weſtm. Adam le More,
Thomas le Mercer.

An account of the Members of Parliament for the County and City of Hereford, as likewiſe for the Boroughs within the ſaid County from the 34, Henry VIII, viz. 1542, to 12, Charles II, viz. 1660. from Brown-Willis' *Notitia Parliamentaria.*

Anno. 33 *Henry VIII.* 1542.
County of Hereford, John Vaughan,—
James Crofts.
City of Hereford, Richard Charncombe, gent.
Thomas Havarde.
Borough of Leominſter, - - - - - - - -

Anno. 1ſt. *Edward VI*, 1547.
Co. H. James Baſkervill,—John Gwillym.
Ci. H. Tho. Havard Eſq.—Will. Barkley.
B. Leo. - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Anno. 7, *Edward VI*, 1552-3.
Co. H. James Baſkervill.
Ci. H. Thomas Havard,—William Barkley.
B. Leo. - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Anno.

Anno. 1, *Mariæ*, 1553.

Co. H. Humph. Coningſby Kt.—Stephen ap Harry Eſq.
Ci. H. John Pryſe Kt.—Tho. Havarde Eſq.
B. Leo. Will. Streete,—John Pollo gent.

Anno. 1, *Mariæ*, 1554.

Co. H. John Lingen Eſq.—John Baſkervill Eſq
Ci. H. Tho. Heywood Eſq.—Tho: Bromwick.
B. Leo. Lewis Jones,—John Evans gent.

Anno. 1, *and* 2, *Philip and Mary*, 1554.

Co. H. Rich. Seborne Eſq—Tho. Havard Eſq.
Ci. H. Will. Smathye.—Leonard Bowelyn.
B. Leo. Nich. Depden.—Tho. Wikes.

Anno. 2, *and* 3, *Philip and Mary*, 1555.

Co. H. John Baſkervill.—Steph. ap Harry Eſq
Ci. H. Hugh Gebons.—Morgan Owgan, (or Owen.)
B. Leo. James Warncombe Eſq.—Tho. Kerry.

Anno. 4, *and* 5, *Philip and Mary*, 1557.

Co. H. Gregory Price Eſq.—John Pattſcall Eſq
Ci. H. Hen. Duddleſton.—John Gibbs.
B. Leo. Alban Byrche,—Rich. Hackluit.

Anno.

Anno. 1, *Elizabeth* 1558-9.

Co. H. Rob. Whitney Kt. — Humph. Coningſby Eſq.

Ci. H. Thomas Church. — - - - - - -

B. Leo. Tho. Hackluit,—Tho. Coningſby Eſq

Anno. 5, *Elizabeth*, 1563.

Co. H. James Crofts Kt.—James Warnecombe

Ci. H. Tho. Webb, — Henry Green gent.

B. Leo. Tho. Dallowe, — John Morgan gent.

Anno. 3, *Elizabeth*, 1571.

Co. H. John Crofts Kt.—John Scudamore Eſq

Ci. H. James Warnecombe Eſq. — Thomas Church gent.

Bo. Leo. Ed. Crofte Eſq.—Nich. Depden Eſq.

Anno. 14, *Elizabeth*, 1572.

Co. H. James Crofts Kt. Comptroller of the Houſhold, — John Scudamore of Homlacy Eſq.

Ci. H. James Warncombe Eſq. — Gregory Price Eſq.

B. Leo. Nich. Depden Eſq.–Fabian Philips Eſq

Anno. 27, *Elizabeth*, 1585.

Co. H. John Crofts Kt.—John Scudamore Eſq

Ci.

Ci. H. Gregory Price Eſq. — James Ball Eſq.
B. Leo. Ed. Croſte Eſq. — Tho. Wigmore.

Anno. 28, *Elizabeth*, 1586.
Co. H. James Crofts Kt.–John Scudamore Eſq
Ci. H. Gregory Pryſe Eſq.—Tho. Jones Eſq.
B. Leo. Ed. Crofts Eſq.—Tho. Wigmore Eſq.

Anno. 31, *Elizabeth*, 1588.
Co. H. James Crofts Kt.–John Scudamore Eſq
Ci. H. Gregory Price Eſq.–Nich. Garnons gent.
B. Leo. Tho. Shoter,—Humph Wale gent.

Anno. 35, *Elizabeth*, 1592.
Co. H. Tho. Coningſby Kt.–Herbert Croft Eſq
Ci. H. Gregory Price Eſq.–Tho. Mailerd Eſq.
B. Leo. Francis Vere Kt.–Rich. Coningſby.

Anno. 39, *Elizabeth*, 1597.
Co. H. Gregory Price Eſq.–John Scudamore Kt
Anth. Pembridge.
Ci. H. Walter Hardman.—Tho. Jones
B. Leo. Tho. Cromwell Eſq.—John Caſwell

Anno. 43, *Elizabeth*, 1601.
Co. H. Tho Coningſby Kt.–Herbert Croſts Eſq
Ci. H. Walter Hardman Eſq.—Tho. Jones Eſq

B. Leo. Tho. Coningſby Eſq.–John Warncomb

Anno. 1ſt, *James* I, 1603.

Co. H. James Scudamore Kt–Herbert Crofts Kt
Ci. H. Walter Hardman Eſq.—John Hoſkyns
B. Leo. Tho. Coningſby Eſq.–John Powle gent

Anno. 12th, *James* I, 1614.

Co. H. James Scudamore Kt.–Herbert Crofts
Ci. H. John Hoſkyns - - - - - - - - -
B. Leo. Ralph Coningſby Kt.–Will. Beecher.

Anno. 18, *James* I,* 1620.

Co. H. John Scudamore Bt. — Fitz Williams Coningſby Eſq.
Ci. H. John Rodd gent.–Richard Weaver gent.
B. Leo. Francis Smallman Eſq. — William Beecher Eſq.

Anno. 21, *James* I, 1623.

Co. H. John Scudamore Bt.—Rob. Harley Kt.
Ci. H. James Clerk Kt.—Richard Weaver Eſq
B. Leo. Will. Beecher Kt.–James Tomkins Eſq

Anno.

* This is the firſt Parliament entered on the liſts or journals of the Houſe of Commons.

Anno. 1, *Charles* I, 1625.

Co. H. John Ruddal Eſq. — Ed. Bridges Eſq.
Ci. H. John Scudamore Bt.–Rich. Weaver gent
B. Leo. James Tomkins.—Ed. Littleton Eſq.

Anno. 1, *Charles* I, 1625.

Co. H. Rob. Harley Kt. — Walter Pye Kt.
Ci. H. James Clerk Eſq.—Rich. Weaver gent.
B. Leo. James Tomkins Eſq.–Ed. Littleton Eſq

Anno. 3, *Charles* I, 1628.

Co. H. Walter Pye Kt. — Giles Bridges Kt.
Ci. H. John Scudamore Kt. and Bt. — John Hoſkyns Eſq.
B. Leo. James Tomkins Eſq. — Tho. Littleton Eſq.

Anno. 15, *Charles* I, 1640.

Co. H. Rob. Harley Kt. of the Bath,—Walter Pye Kt.
Ci. H. Rich. Weaver gent.–Rich. Seaborne Eſq
B. Leo. Will. Smallman Eſq.–Walter Kirle Eſq
Weobley, William Tomkins Eſq. — Thomas Tomkins Eſq.

Anno. 16, *Charles I*, 1640.

Co. H. Rob. Harley Kt.—Fitz William Coningſby Eſq, *Edward*

Edward Harley Eſq.

Ci. H. Rich. Weaver gent.—R. Seaborne Eſq.
Edm. Weaver Eſq.—Benet Hoſkyns Eſq.
B. Leo. Sampſon Eure Eſq.—Walter Kirle Eſq
John Birch Eſq.
Weobley. Arthur Jones, Lord Ranelagh.—
Th. Tomkins Eſq.—* *Robert Andrews*
Eſq.—Will. Crowther Eſq.

Anno, 1653.

Co. H. Wroth Rogers. — John Herring.

Anno, 1654.

Co. H. John Scudamore Eſq. — John Patteſhall Eſq.
John Flacket Eſq.—Rich. Read Eſq.
Ci. H. Bennet Hoſkins Eſq.
B. Leo. John Birch Eſq.

Anno, 1656.

Co. H. Maj. Gen. James Berry. — Edward Harley Eſq.
Benet Hoſkins Eſq.—Benj. Maſon Eſq.
Ci. H. Wroth Rogers Eſq.
B. Leo. John Birch Eſq.

Anno,

* This Parl. ſat till April 20, 1653. Thoſe Members printed in Italicks were Elected in the room of ſuch as died or were diſplaced.

Anno, 1658-*9.

Co. H. Wroth Rogers Eſq—Benet Hoſkins Eſq
Ci. H. Nathan Rogers Eſq.—Roger Boſworth M. D.
B. Leo. John Birch Eſq.—Ed. Freeman Eſq.
Weobley. Herbert Perrot Eſq.—Robert Andrews Eſq.

CHARLES II, 1660.

C. H. Ed. Harley Eſq.—William Powell Eſq
Ci. H. Rob. Boſworth Eſq.—J. Ruſhworth Eſq
B. L. John Birch Eſq.—Edward Pitt Eſq.
B. W. James Pitts Eſq.—Richard Weſton Eſq

1661.

Co. H. John Scudamore.—Tho. Price
Ci. H. Sir Henry Lingen.—Sir Ed. Hopton.
B. Leo. Rich. Grimes—Hugh Cornwall
B. W. Thomas Tomkins—John Barnaby Eſqrs

1678.

Co. H. John Scudamore—Herbert Croſts

Ci

* This Parliament paſſed a vote, not only for diſſolving themſelves, but the laſt Parliament (called in 1640) by Royal authority; and ſummoning a new Parliament to meet April 25, 1660. which on their ſeſſion, called back the King and reſtored the Conſtitution in Church and State.

Ci. H. Peter Harford — Paul Foley
B. Leo. John * Dutton Colt — James Pitts
B. W. William Gray — John Birch Eſqrs.

1681.

Co. H. John Scudamore—Sir Edward Harley.
Ci

* This JOHN DUTTON COLT having frequently delivered his ſentiments in favour of a Proteſtant ſucceſſion; two inhabitants of Leominſter, either attached to the Duke of York's intereſt, or as ſome ſay, bribed to the action, laid an information againſt the ſaid John Dutton Colt, ſwearing, that he ſtood at a place in Leominſter called the Butter-croſs, and ſtriking his Cane againſt one of the Pillars of the building—"CALLED THE DUKE OF YORK A PAPIST, AND SWORE HE WOULD LOSE EVERY DROP OF BLOOD BEFORE A POPISH PRINCE SHOULD SIT ON THE THRONE OF THIS KINGDOM." Whereupon Officers were immediately diſpatched to Leominſter to apprehend the ſaid John Dutton Colt: but availing himſelf of a place of concealment in one of his Bed-chambers, which is to be ſeen at this day, he eluded, for a long time, the ſtricteſt enquiry of his purſuers; tho' they well knew he was ſome where in the houſe, having received intelligence that he was frequently ſeen walking, early in the morning, as well as late at night, in the Garden. At length haraſſed and fatigued by the vigilance of his Enemies, he ſurrendered himſelf, truſting to the ſeverity of the then reigning powers, rather than wear out his life in the gloom of ſolitude, made ſtill more diſmal by perpetual apprehenſions and terror. He was afterwards fined one hundred thouſand pounds, and impriſoned in the King's-bench till it ſhould be paid. What part of the fine he paid is uncertain; but he continued about ten years in the King's-bench, till he was ſet at liberty by King William the III. at the time of the Revolution. Whilſt he was Priſoner in the King's-bench he was twice returned Member for Leominſter, once in the reign of Charles II. and once in that of his Brother James II.

Ci. H. Henry Aubrey — Paul Foley
B. L. John Dutton Colt — Tho. Coningſby
B. W. John Booth — John Birch Eſqrs.

JAMES II.

1685.
Co. H. Sir J. Morgan Bt.—Sir J. Hoſkyns Bt.
Ci. H. Thomas Geers — Herbert Aubrey
B. L. Thomas Coningſby — Robert Cornwall
B. W. Henry Cornwall — Robert Price Eſqrs.

1688.
Co. H. Sir Ed. Harley—Sir John Morgan Bt.
Ci. H. Sir William Grevill — Paul Foley
B. L. John Dutton Colt — Thomas Coningſby
B. W. John Birch — James Morgan Eſqrs.

WILLIAM AND MARY.

1690.
Co. H. Sir J. Morgan Bt.–Sir Herb. Crofts Bt.
Ci. H. Paul Foley — Henry Cornwall
B. L. Thomas Coningſby — John Dutton Colt
B. W. Robert Price — Thomas Foley Eſqrs.

1692-3.
Co. H. Sir Rob. Crofts Bt.—Sir Ed. Harley Bt.
Ci. H. Paul Foley — Henry Cornwall

B. L. Rt. Hon. Thomas Lord Coningſby. — John Dutton Colt.
B. W. Robert Price,—Tho. Foley jun. Eſqrs.

1695.

Co. H. Sir Herbert Crofts Bt. — Sir Edward Harley Kt. and Bt.
Ci. H. James Morgan, — Paul Foley,
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby—J. Dutton Colt,
B. W. Robert Price, — Thomas Foley *Eſqrs.*

1698.

Co. H. Henry Cornwall, — Henry Gorges,
Ci. H. Paul Foley,— Hon. James Bridges.
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby.—*Edward Harley,*
B. W. Robert Price, — Thomas Foley *Eſqrs.*

1701.

Co. H. Sir John Williams Kt.—Hen. Gorges,
Ci. H. Hon. James Bridges. — Thomas Foley,
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby—*Edward* Harley,
B. W. Robert Price, — John Birch *Eſqrs.*

ANNE.

1702.

Co. H. Sir John Williams Kt.—Henry Gorges,
Ci. H. Hon. James Bridges.—Thomas Foley,
B. L.

B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby,—Edward Harley,
B. W. Henry Cornwall,—Thomas Price Eſqrs.

1705.
Co. H. James Lord Viſc. Scudamore.—Henry Gorges,
Ci. H. Hon. James Bridges—Thomas Foley,
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby,—Edward Harley,
B. W. Henry Cornwall,—John Birch Eſqrs.

SINCE THE UNION.

Firſt Parliament, 1ſt. *May*, 1707.
Co. H. James Viſc. Scudamore,—Hen. Gorges,
Ci. H. James Brydges—Thomas Foley,
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby,—Edward Harley,
B. W. John Birch,—Henry Cornwall Eſqrs.

Second Parliament, 1708.
Co. H. James Viſc. Scudamore,—John Pryſe,
Ci. H. James Bridges,—Thomas Foley,
B. L. Tho. Lord Coningſby,—Edward Harley,
B. W. Hen. * Thynne,—Henry Gorges Eſqrs.
John Birch Eſq.

* Died

Third Parliament, 1710.

Co. H. James Viſc. Scudamore,—John * Pryſe,
Sir Thomas Morgan Bt.
Ci. H. James Brydges, — Thomas Foley,
B. L. Edward Bangham, — Edward Harley,
B. W. John Birch, — Henry Cornwall Eſqrs.

Fourth Parliament, 1713.

Co. H. James Viſc. Scudamore,—Sir Thomas
Morgan Bt.
Ci. H. James Bridges, — Thomas Foley,
B. L. Henry Gorges, — Edward Harley,
B. W. John Birch, — Uvedale Price Eſqrs.

Fifth Parliament, 1715.

Co. H. Rich. Hopton,—Sir Tho. † Morgan Bt.
Sir Hungerford Hoſkins Bt.
Ci. H. James ‡ Viſc. Scudamore,—Tho. Foley,
Herbert Weſtfailing,
B. L. Tho. Lord § Coningſby,
Sir George Caſwall ¶ Kt.
Sir George Caſwall ‖ Kt.
William Bateman,
B. W.

* Died. † Died. ‡ Died. § Peer of Ireland, created a Peer of great Britain. ¶ Not duly Elected, he was therefore Elected again. ‖ Expelled the houſe and committed to the tower for combining with the South Sea directors.

B. W. Charles * Cornwall, — Paul Foley,
Nicholas Philpot Eſqrs.

Sixth Parliament, 1722.

Co. H. Sir Edward Goodere Kt. & Bt.—Velters Cornwall,
Ci. H. Herbert R. Weſtfailing, — William † Mayo, James Walwyn,
B. L. Sir George Caſwall—Sir Archer Croft Bt.
B. W. Nicholas Philpott, — John Birch Eſqrs.

Seventh Parliament, 1727.

Co. H. Edward Harley, — Velters Cornwall,
Ci. H. Henry Marq. of Caernarvon,—Thomas Geers,
B. L. Sir George Caſwall Kt. — William Viſc. Bateman,
B. W. Uvedale Price, — John ‡ Birch, James Cornwall Eſqrs.

Eighth Parliament, 1734.

Co. H. Edward Harley, —Velters Cornwall,
Ci. H.

* Vice-Admiral of the blue, and Comptrolerof the Navy, died.

N. B. April 16th. 1725. The Election for Leominſter was granted to be in the Bailiff, Capital Burgeſſes, and Inhabitants paying ſcot and lot.

† Died. ‡ Expelled.

Ci. H. Tho. Foley jun.—Sir John Morgan Bt.
B. L. Sir George Caſwell Kt.—Robert Harley,
B. W. Sir John Buckworth Bt.—John * Birch,
James Cornwall Eſqrs.

Ninth Parliament, 1741.

Co. H. Edward † Harley,—Velters Cornwall,
Thomas Foley,
Ci. H. Edward Cope Hopton,—Thomas Geers
Windford,
B. L. John ‡ Caſwall,—Capel Hanbury,
Robert Harley Eſqrs.
B. W. Hen. Viſc. Palmerſton,—George Lord
Carpenter.

Tenth Parliament, 1747.

Co. H. Ed. Lord Harley,—Velters Cornwall,
Ci. H. Henry Cornwall,—Daniel Leighton,
B. L. Sir Robert Cornwall Bt.—James Peachey,
B. W. Manſell § Powell,—Savage Moſtyn Eſqrs
John Earl of Egmont.

Eleventh

* Reſolved March 3rd. 1737. That the right of Election (for Weobley) is in the Inhabitants of the ancient Votehouſes of twenty Shillings per Annum value and upwards, reſiding in the ſaid houſes forty days before the day of Election and paying ſcot and lot, who ſhall be reſident in ſuch houſes at the time of the Election; and that John Birch Eſq. deceaſed, was not duly Elected.

† Created Earl of Oxford. ‡ Died. § Not duly Elected.

Eleventh Parliament, 1754.

Co. H. Sir John Morgan Bt.—Velters Cornewall,

Ci H. Charles Fitzroy Scudamore,—John Symonds,

B. L. Sir Cha. * Hanbury Williams,—Richard Gorges Eſqrs.

Chaſe Price.

B. W. J. Craſter, — Savage † Moſtyn,

Geo. Venables Vernon Eſqrs.

Twelfth Parliament, 1761.

Co. H. Sir J. Morgan Bt.—Velters Cornewall,

Ci. H. Ch. Fitzroy Scudamore, — J. Symonds

B. L. Jenniſon Shafto, — Chaſe ‡ Price,

—— Wiles Eſqrs.

B. W. Marquis of § Tichfield,—Fred. Thynne,

William Lynch Eſqrs.

Thirteenth Parliament, 1768.

Co. H. Thomas Foley, — Thomas Foley jun.

Ci. H. John Scudamore,—Richard Symonds,

B. L. Lord Viſc. Bateman,—Richard Carnac,

B. W. Lord Irnham, — Hon. H. F. ‖ Thynne,

Bamber Gaſcoyne Eſqrs.

Fourteenth

* Died in 1759. † Died. ‡ Vacated his Seat. § A Peer.
‖ Vacated in 1771.

Fourteenth Parliament, 1774.

Co. H. Tho. * Foley,—Sir George Cornwall Bt.
Rt. Hon. Thomas Harley.
Ci. H. John Scudamore,—Sir Rich. Symonds Bt
B. L. Lord Viſc. Bateman.—Richard † Hill,
Fred. Cornewall,
B. W. Sir William Lynch Kt. & Bt.—Sir Leger Douglas.

Fifteenth Parliament, 1781.

Co. H. Rt. Hon. Thomas Harley,—Sir George Cornewall Bt.
Ci. H. John Scudamore,—Sir Rich. Symonds Bt
B. L. Rt. Hon. Lord Viſc. Bateman.—Richard Payne Knight,
B. W. Sir Leger Douglas,—Andrew Bayntun Eſqrs.

Sixteenth Parliament, 1784.

Co. H. Rt. Hon. Thomas Harley,—Sir George Cornewall Bt.
Ci. H. John Scudamore,—Earl of ‡ Surrey.
Robert § Phillips,
James Walwyn Eſqrs
B. L. John Hunter,—P. Aſhton Curzon Eſqrs
B. W.

* A Peer in 1776. † Died. ‡ Took his Seat for Carliſle.
§ Vacated.

B. W. John * Scott, — Andrew Bayntun,
Sir John Scott Kt. — Lord Weymouth.

Seventeenth Parliament, 1790.

Co. H. Rt. Hon. Thomas Harley,—Sir George Cornewall Bt.
Ci. H. John Scudamore,—James Walwyn,
B. L. John Hunter, — John † Sawyer,
Richard Beckford Eſqrs.
B. W. Sir John ‡ Scott Kt. — Lord George Thynne.
Sir John Scott Kt.

* Made Solicitor General and Reelected. † Not duly Elected,
‡ Made Attorney General, and Reelected February 20th. 1793.

F I N I S.

QUÆRIES,

Humbly propoſed to the NOBILITY, GENTRY, and CLERGY, of the County of Hereford.

I. What is the Etymology of the name of each Pariſh?

II. Its extent, number of hamlets, villages, townſhips, chapelries, wards, &c. Their name and ſituation, with the diviſion, hundred or liberty to which they belong.—The number of houſes and Inhabitants in the pariſh. How many under ten years of age.—How many upwards of ten and under twenty, and how many upwards of twenty, with the ſex of each?

III. What Manors are or were is it—the names &c. of their ancient and preſent proprietors, pedigrees of Gentlemen's families.—The particular cuſtoms, privileges, or remarkable tenures of each manor.—Its courts and their juriſdictions whether eccleſiaſtical or civil.

IV. What caſtles, forts, camps, roads, beacons, croſſes, rude ſtones, obeliſks, or other extraordinary works of Antiquity, whether Britiſh, Roman, Saxon, or Daniſh.—What hiſtorical accounts or traditions are of them? What Barrows or Tumuli? Have any been opened, and what has been found therein? What vaults, pieces of pottery, lamps, urns, weapons, armour, ſtatutes, carvings, altars, coins, ſeals, rings &c. have been found, and by whom.

V. What Abbies, Priories, Hermitages, or other monaſtic foundations? Of what order? By whom founded? Are there any ruins of them remaining, with their deſcriptions? what charters, rentals, ſtatutes, wills, or other writings, ſeals, ſhrines, reliques or other fragments belonging to them? Whether any councils Synods, Parliaments, &c. civil or religious have been holden.—When and where? The lives and ancedotes of the Britiſh Biſhops of Urchenfield &c. ſubject to the ſees of St. David or Caerleon.—Their legends and traditions—alſo of Saints, &c. with their miracles, or legends of them in the Pariſh or County?

VI.

VI. Have any battles been fought — by whom — on what ſpot — and when? — What facts or traditions exiſt concerning them? Under this head it is neceſſary to inquire into the ſufferings of the Nobility, Gentry and Clergy, on various occaſions.

VII. Are there are any Colleges, Schools, Hoſpitals, or Almshouſes, by whom and when founded—for howmany objects? with their ancient and preſent ſtate? what lands or tithe belonging to any other College, School, or Hoſpital &c out of the Pariſh?

VIII. What Rivers, brooks, or Navigable Canals, run through the Pariſh?

IX. Has the pariſh given birth to any remarkable Perſons? their lives, traditions &c concerning them?

X. What particular Games, Sports, Wakes, Annual Proceſſions, Cuſtoms, Proverbs, are uſed? Their Traditions?

XI. CHURCH. To whom dedicated — by whom built — monuments, and inſcriptions, braſs plates, — or any remains of antiquity, as fonts, altars &c. — Any vaults belonging to ancient families. — What extraordinay preſervations of bodies. — Any arms or inſcriptions in the windows &c. — Any remarkable records, benefactions &c.

XII. Is the living a rectory, vicarage, donative, or fine-cure? who are, or have been Patrons? — What remarkable of the incumbents? Has the living been augmented by Queen Ann's bounty? Who are the poſſeſſors of tithes &c.

XIII. Is there any Chapel of eaſe? — the Chapels or Meetings of various perſuaſions, — their number.

XIV. What markets, fairs &c? Are any particular Manufactures carried on. — What rare pieces of art have been invented.

XV. What proportion of meadow, paſture, arable, orchards, hopground and woodland in each pariſh, with the culture and produce of ſuch land — Any new ſyſtem of huſbandry and what? Any parks, warrens, waſte lands, chaces &c. — Their extent, and computed value.

XVI. With reſpect to natural hiſtory. — The ſoil, ſtones, minerals, marls, bitumens, ſtrata, petrefactions, foſſils, mines, ſprings, lakes.

lakes, ſubterraneous rivers, manure, cattle, birds, fiſhes, inſects, plants? &c. State of the air and weather in general.—Any caves, grottoes, echoes, mountains, phænomena, as meteors &c? Manners of the people, longevity &c. What ſtrange accidents, uncommon deaths, murders, and their diſcoveries?—What traditions, legends, apparitions &c. obtain concerning them.—Has the pariſh undergone any remarkable charges by Earthquakes, inundations, lightning &c.

XVII. To theſe Quæries as applied to the city of Hereford, and the other corporate and market towns, may be added others reſpecting their hiſtory, foundations, ſtreets, buildings, walls, gates, churches, wards, pariſhes, charters, privileges, immunities, corporations, companies, guilds, government, liſt of Mayors, Bailiffs, chief Stewards, Recorders, Biſhops, Deans &c. Trade, manufacture, accidents by fire, &c. &c. &c.

Anſwers addreſſed to the Rev. John Lodge, Leominſter, will be thankfully acknowledged, and duly noticed in the courſe of the Hiſtory.

N. B. If any Gentleman will undertake to write the Hiſtory of his own Pariſh, it will be conſidered as an additional obligation.